

Sloan Group Received Homophobic Threats

After Incident, Community Discussed Values

By Ramya Sankar
STAFF REPORTER

A Sloan student was not expelled or suspended after sending a homophobic, threatening e-mail to members of the Sloan LGBT student group.

The e-mail was sent in December; the resulting Committee on Discipline case was resolved in February; a letter to the Sloan community was sent in March; and an open forum was held in April. The incident and subsequent discussion have forced the Sloan school to seriously reevaluate its values and to implement diversity training, according to students.

On Dec. 10, the officers of the MIT Sloan LGBT received a homophobic e-mail from a fellow Sloan student, threatening violence. A case was filed with Cambridge officials, and Sloan administrators filed a complaint with MIT's Committee on Discipline.

The offending e-mail was a response to an invitation sent out by the Sloan Lesbian, Gay, and Transgender Club to an end-of-semester celebration. The response reads in part: "If you fucking fags send me something like that once again or contact me in any other way, I swear you won't be able to study at Sloan for some time because you will

spend it at resuscitation department. If this is what you want, go ahead." The full message is available online along with a response from the LGBT group at <http://tech.mit.edu/V128/N18/sloan/>.

Group officers contacted the Sloan administration, who notified the MIT Police. Soon a court case was filed, said Tom Armet G, an officer of Sloan LGBT.

After proceedings in January, "the Cambridge Court case was closed pending further action," said Eric J. Silverberg G, another officer of Sloan LGBT.

MIT's Committee on Discipline heard on Feb. 14 a case against the student who sent the e-mail, whose name has not been released, and the case was resolved a few days afterward, Silverberg said.

COD officials would not confirm or deny that they had heard such a case, standard practice for the tight-lipped committee. "I can't confirm" that this case or any other had been heard, said Sheila E. Widnall '60, the committee's current chair.

The details of the proceedings and the outcome are not known to anyone outside of those present at the hearings, which did not include

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A Record Number of Students Attend Campus Preview Weekend

By Arkajit Dey
and Nick Bushak
STAFF REPORTERS

A record number of prospective freshmen — 1021 — have descended upon MIT for this year's Campus Preview Weekend, according to Ben Jones, Associate Director of Admissions. The event, which ten years ago was meant to attract women and minority students to MIT, is now open to all admitted freshmen. CPW has grown explosively since then, increasing from 974 last year and 868 the year before.

CPW runs from April 10 to April 13. Living groups, student groups, MIT organizations, and other groups offer more than 600 events throughout all hours of the weekend.

A smorgasbord of activities characterized last night's CPW opening festival, held in the Johnson Athletics Center. Perennial favorites, like liquid nitrogen ice cream, drew long lines. Meanwhile, eager combatants wielded foam-laden swords and competed in "boffing" duels.

Elsewhere, crowds of prospective freshmen contorted their bodies in novel ways in large games of Twister and four-square. Raucous potential rock stars amused themselves playing Guitar Hero and Rock Band.

Prospective freshmen agreed that the weekend — which, yes-



MONICA KAHN—THE TECH

Benjamin W. Charrow '08 wears a "CRYO-FAC" box in reference to East Campus' Friday Afternoon Club at the 2008 Campus Preview Weekend in Johnson Ice Rink yesterday.

terday being Thursday, had not really yet begun — was pretty intense and slightly crazy. The fast pace of events appeals to some more than

others.
Laura Bagamery, a Pittsburgh

Preview, Page 11

Students Use MIT Skills For Indian Flood Relief

By Saajan S. Chana

I arrived in Delhi, like most international travellers, in the middle of the night, when the temperature was a mere 70 degrees. I walked out of the terminal to see a melee of taxi drivers soliciting the custom of shell-shocked travellers with the latest Bollywood hits blaring out of tinny speakers. It was, you know, the usual spring break scene.

But I had a mission. I was there as part of the new D-Lab companion subject Information and Communications Technology for Development (SP.716). I'm a member of one of eight teams working around the world on using IT to solve problems ranging from education to matching workers with employers. My team works with Catholic Relief Services India, a non-governmental organization involved in flood relief in Bihar in northern India.

Bihar is one of the most flood-prone states in India because of runoff

India, Page 12

MIT Student Fights to Protect Activists' Privacy

By Michael McGraw-Herdeg
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

A New York City Law Department subpoena to an MIT graduate student over text messages has raised questions about how the First Amendment protects online speech, and whether the government is allowed to ask service providers for messages they store.

On a winter day in February, Edward A. Hirsch G was in the Rotch Library writing a thesis chapter about his TXTmob system, which he had developed to help protesters communicate during the 2004 Republican National Convention. As he began a

paragraph about how his system theoretically protected people's privacy, he learned that New York City had just put his theory to the test.

"If you just use a commercial provider," he said, "you end up with an archive of messages that could be provided to the cops if they wanted, and that might not be great. So I'm writing that sentence in academese when my phone rings ..."

Hirsch was asked for text messages sent by his TXTmob service during the Republican National Convention in a broad subpoena issued by the New

TXTmob, Page 16

MIT News Office Publication Violates Federal Law

Wednesday's issue of *Tech Talk* appears to violate federal law. A front-page article discussing Dan Ariely's book "Predictably Irrational" included a color image of a U.S. \$1 bill. The image is 5.125" long, 85 percent as long as a real \$1 bill. Printed images of U.S. currency must be "of a size less than three-fourths or more than one and one-half, in linear dimension, of each part of any matter so illustrated," according to 18 USC § 504, as amended by the Department of the Treasury under amendment 411.1.

The News Office was unavailable for comment on Thursday night.
—Nick Semenkovich

Briefs



PERRY HUNG—THE TECH

In a sweeping speech on Wednesday in the Tang Auditorium, Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick outlined a \$3.8 billion bond proposal to protect the state's economy. It was Patrick's first official visit to MIT since his inauguration in January of 2007.

In Short

¶ **Feeling screwed?** Voting in the APO Big Screw charity fundraiser ends tomorrow in Lobby 10. Pick someone who's done their worst to you and vote with dollars!

¶ **A memorial service** for Professor J. Mark Schuster PhD '79 will be held

Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Media Lab's Bartos Theater.

¶ **Yes, MIT has journalism.** See for yourself at *The Tech's* open house today, all afternoon, on the fourth floor of the Student Center. Current students and admitted freshmen are welcome.

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WORLD & NATION

Security Will Be Tight During Pope's Visit to New York

By Al Baker

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

Portions of the sky above, the water around, and streets all over New York will be sealed off next week when Pope Benedict XVI arrives in the city.

As a religious leader and a head of state, recently accused by Osama bin Laden of leading a crusade against Muslims, the pope presents city and federal law enforcement authorities with a security challenge of considerable complexity.

Planning began in October for a three-day trip that will involve visits to some of the city's biggest and most high-profile locations: ground zero, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Yankee Stadium, the United Nations and the Park East Synagogue — which will constitute "the first-ever visit by a pope to a synagogue in the United States," Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly said Wednesday.

All the locations will be swept for bombs. Some other measures will be visible: scuba divers in the East River, counter-snipers patrolling rooftops, helicopters, and armored limousines.

Other measures will not be visible, like undercover detectives mingling in crowds or officers carrying pager-sized radiation detectors on their belts.

Officials Tell How Sect in West Texas Was Raided

By Gretel C. Kovach and Kirk Johnson

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS

For years, the veiled world behind the doors of a fundamentalist Mormon polygamist temple tantalized local imaginations in the West Texas hill country.

On Thursday, a Texas ranger described in detail what occurred last week when law enforcement officers, responding to a call for help from a 16-year-old who said she was being sexually abused in the compound, sought entry.

In essence, Capt. Barry Caver of the Texas Public Safety Department said at a news conference here, the officers knocked and asked for a key. The church members quietly said no.

"They opted not to do that because they would be aiding or assisting us in the desecration of their worship place," Caver said.

The authorities called in a locksmith to open the gate, but they were unable to move the deadbolts to open the front doors of the temple. They tried to use a "jaws of life" tool, normally used to remove people trapped in cars after accidents, to open the doors. But the doors were too tightly constructed, Caver said.

Dalai Lama Visits Seattle Town

By William Yardley

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SEATTLE

The Baptist church that once stood on a residential corner in this city's Greenwood neighborhood was long ago converted to a Buddhist monastery, pillows in the place of pews.

Outside, a bright white stupa stands amid half-million-dollar bungalows, some with signs in their windows reciting current creed: "Another Neighbor for Peace and Justice."

"It's a spiritual city, perhaps more than a religious city," said Chuck Pettis, president of the Sakya Monastery, where three monks practice Tibetan Buddhism.

Spirits here are soaring these days. More than 150,000 people are expected to flock to hear the Dalai Lama during a five-day conference starting Friday.

The visit by the Dalai Lama, who arrived here on Thursday afternoon on a flight from Japan, is his first to the United States since the onset of international protests over the crackdown in Tibet.

Bush Signals No Early Troop Reductions for Iraq Forces

By Steven Lee Myers and Thom Shanker

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Bush said Thursday that the senior U.S. commander in Iraq could "have all the time he needs" before reducing U.S. forces there any further, but he promised shorter tours for troops and longer breaks for them at home.

Democrats responded by saying that no end was in sight to the U.S. troop commitment.

Bush defended the costs of the war, in lives and money, declaring that his decision to order more troops to Iraq last year had averted potential defeat there and that withdrawing would be catastrophic to U.S. interests.

Speaking at the White House to a small audience that included Vice President Dick Cheney, the secretaries of state and defense and representatives of veterans' organizations, he signaled that a U.S. force nearly as large as at any other point in the last five years would remain in Iraq through his presidency. He left any significant changes in policy to the next president.

"Fifteen months ago, Americans were worried about the prospect of fail-

ure in Iraq," he said, sounding a triumphant note about his decision last year to send 30,000 additional troops. "Today, thanks to the surge, we've renewed and revived the prospect of success."

As was the case during two days of congressional testimony this week by the U.S. commander, Gen. David H. Petraeus, the Democratic presidential candidates offered assessments that diverged sharply from Bush's.

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton said that the president "refuses to face the reality that we are confronted by in Iraq."

"It's time for the president to answer the question being asked of him," she said while campaigning in Pittsburgh. "In the wake of the failed objectives that were laid out to be met by the surge, what is the exit strategy in Iraq?"

Sen. Barack Obama echoed his rival for the Democratic nomination. "We have a blank check strategy in Iraq that is overstressing our military, distracting us from the other challenges we face, burdening our economy and failing to pressure the Iraqi government to take responsibility for their future," he said in a statement.

With only nine months left in his

presidency, Bush has begun making the case for a war that will continue, one way or another, under another commander-in-chief. He flatly restated his views on the war that will most define his legacy and set the terms of the debate over Iraq for the coming presidential election.

"Iraq is the convergence point for two of the greatest threats to America in this new century: al-Qaida and Iran," Bush said. "If we fail there, al-Qaida would claim a propaganda victory of colossal proportions, and they could gain safe havens in Iraq from which to attack the United States, our friends and our allies," he said. "Iran would work to fill the vacuum in Iraq, and our failure would embolden its radical leaders and fuel their ambitions to dominate the region."

Bush's focus on Iran, while not new, reflected deepening concerns in the administration and the Pentagon about suspected Iranian support for some extremists, which they say became increasingly evident during the indecisive Iraqi operation in late March to wrest control of Basra from Shiite militias and in a recent spate of rocket attacks on the Green Zone in Baghdad.

Thousands Struggle With Mass Cancellations of Airline Flights

By Jeff Bailey and Marina Trahan Martinez

THE NEW YORK TIMES

DALLAS

On Monday, Karin Peyregne was in Mobile, Ala., kissing her husband and two young sons goodbye, on her way to a base near Chicago for basic training in the Navy.

Unfortunately, she was flying on American Airlines, and connecting through Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport. She joined thousands of other travelers here, and in other cities like Chicago, who were stranded as American canceled more than 3,000 flights through Friday because of maintenance inspections ordered by the Federal Aviation Administration.

As of Thursday night, Peyregne (pronounced PUR-in), 25, and a group of six young male Navy recruits she was traveling with to the Great Lakes Naval Station, were still

stuck in and around the airport here.

They were learning one of the harsh realities of air travel these days. Because flights are full everywhere, there are virtually no open seats available on other airlines when something goes wrong. And more cancellations could roll through the airline industry as the FAA steps up its scrutiny of carriers' compliance with safety directives.

The group of new recruits arrived Tuesday afternoon in Dallas from New Orleans to connect to a flight to Chicago. But that flight was among 460 canceled that day. Wednesday and Thursday brought no relief. Friday, they will be waiting — hopeful, yet skeptical — to see if a promised 8 a.m. flight materializes.

"I'm ready to get to boot camp or get back to my babies," Peyregne said. She had left Mobile with \$10 in her pocket.

Her group has lived off USO food and drinks, available to military in the airport, since Tuesday. They also were given cash from another organization that helps soldiers, and have used meal vouchers from American.

They ran out of clean clothes long ago, since the Navy told them to carry nothing with them because they would be issued military attire. They showered in discount hotel rooms, paid for by the Navy, then donned their only outfits again.

"I'm a little OCD when it comes it neatness," Peyregne said. "This is definitely not good for me."

Her chances of flying out Friday morning were not great, either. American, which canceled 1,094 flights on Wednesday and more than 930 flights on Thursday, said it expected to cancel an additional 570 on Friday, with 170 of its 300 MD-80 jetliners back in service by Friday morning.

WEATHER

Warm Weather on Hold for Now

By John K. Williams

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The calendar says it's spring and the sun is high in the sky, so why you say are 30s°F and 40s°F in the forecast? No it's (probably) not some cruel weather modification prank for campus preview weekend, but instead an inescapable characteristic of spring-time in coastal southern New England. After a long winter, water temperatures near Boston are still only in the upper 30s°F (water has a high heat capacity). High pressure areas to our north (with clockwise wind circulation) or low pressure areas to our south (vice-versa) can both orient wind from the Atlantic which subsequently cools down all of New England. The latter is expected for this weekend, the low pressure also bringing rain and leaving the first two Sox-Yanks games in doubt.

In addition, a quick warm-up is not expected when fair weather returns early next week. There will be cool air from Canada and the Atlantic left over and even when that moderates we will still have to deal with a local sea breeze circulation, as was discussed in Tuesday's issue. To reiterate, this is wind off the water due to local pressure differences created when land is warmed by the sun adjacent to a cool body of water. Often a local meteorologist will promise a warm sunny day in April only to see a sea breeze knock the temperatures down to the low 50s°F right near the coast, as was the case earlier this week. Although the weekend will be cool and wet and early next week cool and dry, there is hope for a pattern shift later next week to really start warming us up for the first time since last October. Fingers crossed until then.

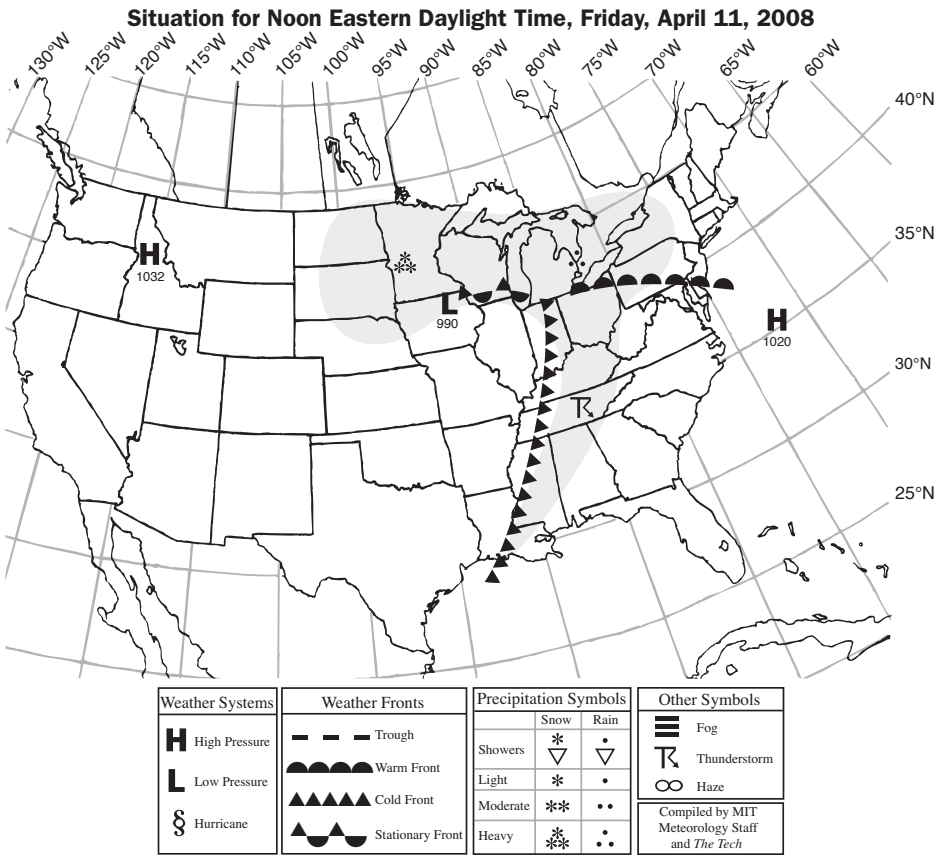
Today: Cloudy, rain after dinner. High 53°F (12°C).

Tonight: Rain. Low 41°F (5°C).

Tomorrow: Periods of rain continue, diminishing in the afternoon. High 48°F (9°C).

Sunday: Cloudy, showers possible. High 47°F (8°C).

Monday: Mostly cloudy. High 44°F (7°C).



Top Olympic Committee Official Makes Rare Criticism of China

By Andrew Jacobs
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEIJING

China faced rare criticism of its human rights record from the head of the International Olympics Committee on Thursday, even as calls for a boycott of the opening ceremony of the games grew louder in Europe and the United States.

The president of the Olympic committee, Jacques Rogge, called on the authorities in Beijing to respect their “moral engagement” to improve human rights in the runup to the games and to provide the news media with greater access to the country. He also described the protests that have dogged the international Olympics torch relay as a “crisis” for the organization.

Though Rogge predicted the games would still be a success, his comments were a sharp departure from previous statements in which he avoided any mention of politics. Beijing quickly rejected his remarks and said they amounted to meddling in its internal affairs.

Meanwhile, pressure increased on world leaders to signal their opposi-

tion to China’s policies in Tibet and its close relations with the government of Sudan by skipping the opening ceremony of the games. The European Parliament urged leaders of its 27 member nations to consider a boycott of the ceremony unless China opens a dialogue with the Dalai Lama, the exiled spiritual leader of Tibet.

And in New York, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon informed China that he would not attend the ceremony, a spokeswoman said. An official in Ban’s office said he had travel commitments in Europe and Latin America and that he was already scheduled to be in China in July, shortly before the games.

China’s human rights policies and the Olympics have become a contentious issue in the race for president in the United States, where the three remaining candidates from both parties have called on President Bush, who has plans to attend the Olympics, to skip the opening event.

Sen. John McCain, the presumptive Republican nominee, said he would not attend the opening ceremony if he were president, echoing a similar statement by Sen. Hillary Rodham

Clinton earlier this week. Sen. Barack Obama suggested that Bush should wait to make a final decision, but leave a boycott “firmly on the table.”

Preparation for the games were rocked last month when Tibetans staged violent protests against Chinese rule and security forces cracked down on monks and other supporters of the exiled Dalai Lama in several parts of Western China. The clashes sparked sympathy protests and calls for the boycott around the world. Demonstrators turned the 21-city torch relay ceremony into a public relations fiasco for Beijing and the Olympic committee.

Top officials in China have claimed that the Tibetan protests and the international protests are part of a plot to disrupt the Olympics orchestrated by the Dalai Lama, who lives in India. They have called the Dalai Lama a splittist and a terrorist whose goal is to separate Tibet from China.

On Thursday, officials also said that they had uncovered a plot by Islamic terrorists in Xinjiang to disrupt the games by kidnapping foreign journalists, athletes and spectators who attend the Olympics.

New Fight for Sadr City Becomes Proving Ground for Iraqi Military

By Michael R. Gordon
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

The Iraqi soldiers pushed their way up a main thoroughfare in Sadr City over the past week, but the militias who still prowl the Shiite enclave were sniping at them from the alleyways.

So a platoon of U.S. troops drove up a bomb-cratered road in their Stryker vehicles on Thursday to give the Iraqis some pointers on how to hold the line.

After the ramps of the Strykers were lowered, 2nd Lt. Adam Bowen sought out his Iraqi counterpart at the battered storefront in the Thawra district that served as an Iraqi strong point.

“Are you going to stay?” the Iraqi lieutenant asked hopefully.

Bowen told them his platoon was not. Surveying the terrain, he recommended that the Iraqi soldiers set up a firing position overlooking a sniper-infested ally. After an hour, the Americans headed back to the abandoned house that served as the company command post, and the gunfire in the streets picked up again.

The struggle for control of Sadr City is more than a test of wills with renegade Shiite militias. It has also become a testing ground for the Iraqi military, which has been thrust into the lead.

Iraqi soldiers, suffering from a shortage of experienced noncommissioned officers, have often been firing wildly, expending vast quantities of ammunition to try to silence militias that are equipped with AK-47’s, mortars and rockets. But pulling back from their positions earlier, they now appear to be holding their ground — albeit with considerable U.S. support.

Iraqi politics has played a role in shaping the military strategy. Prime Minister Nouri Kamal al-Maliki has decreed that U.S. ground forces should not push into the heart of Sadr City, according to a senior U.S. officer. U.S. commanders also want to limit the U.S. profile in an area that has long been a bastion of support for Muqtada al-Sadr, the anti-American cleric.

But U.S. commanders also see this as opportunity to shift more responsibility to the Iraqi troops — in

this case Iraq’s 11th Army Division, one of the newest divisions in the Iraqi military.

Whether they like it or not, Iraqi troops are hundreds of yards ahead of the farthest U.S. position and in the thick of the fight.

“The IA needs to start doing it on their own,” Bowen, the 23-year-old commander of 3rd Platoon, Bravo Company, told a reporter who accompanied him on the mission, referring to the Iraqi army.

The Iraqi troops, of course, still benefit mightily from U.S. military support. On Thursday morning, Apache helicopters fired Hellfire missiles at teams of militia fighters that were preparing to fire mortars.

Heavily armored U.S. “route clearance” vehicles, their searchlights blazing in the night, sweep the roads for hidden bombs. A U.S. reconnaissance drone buzzed overhead and an armed Predator drone blasted a small group of militia men a few days ago.

In an urban battlefield in which there are often no clear lines and militias still roam the narrow side streets, U.S. soldiers are very much at risk and in the fray.

Clinton’s Poverty Policy Brings Back Memories of Rift in 1996 Campaign

By Peter S. Goodman
THE NEW YORK TIMES

In the summer of 1996, President Bill Clinton delivered on his pledge to “end welfare as we know it.” Despite howls of protest from some liberals, he signed into law a bill forcing recipients to work and imposing a five-year limit on cash assistance.

As first lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton supported her husband’s decision, drawing the wrath of old friends from her days as an advocate for poor children. Some accused the Clintons of throwing vulnerable families to the winds in pursuit of centrist votes as Bill Clinton headed into the final stages of his re-election campaign.

Despite the criticism and anxiety from the left, the legislation came to be viewed as one of Bill Clinton’s signature achievements. It won broad bipartisan praise, with some Democrats relieved that it took a politically difficult issue off the table for them, and many liberals came to accept it not embrace it.

Hillary Clinton’s opponent in the

race for the Democratic Party presidential nomination, Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., said in an interview that the welfare overhaul had been greatly beneficial in eliminating a divisive force in American politics.

Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., rarely mentions the issue as she battles for the nomination, despite the emphasis she has placed on her experience in her husband’s White House.

But now the issue is back, pulled to the fore by an economy turning down more sharply than at any other time since the welfare changes were imposed. With low-income people especially threatened by a weakening labor market, some advocates for poor families are raising concerns about the adequacy of the remaining social safety net. Clinton is now campaigning for the establishment of a Cabinet-level position to fight poverty.

As social welfare policy returns to the political debate, it is providing a window into the ways in which Clinton has navigated the legacy of her husband’s administration and the ideological crosscurrents of her party.

In an interview, Clinton acknowledged that “people who are more vulnerable” were going to suffer more than others as the economy turned down. But she put the blame squarely on the Bush administration and the Republicans who controlled Congress until last year. Clinton said they blocked her efforts, and those of other Democrats, to buttress the safety net with increased financing for health insurance for impoverished children, child care for poor working mothers, and food stamps.

Clinton expressed no misgivings about the 1996 legislation, saying that it was a needed — and enormously successful — first step toward making poor families self-sufficient.

“Welfare should have been a temporary way station for people who needed immediate assistance,” she said. “It should not be considered an anti-poverty program. It simply did not work.”

During the presidential campaign, she has faced little challenge on the issue, in large part because Obama has supported the 1996 law.

Public Forum to Address Safety Issues on Vaccines

By Gardiner Harris

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

In the midst of yet another controversy about whether vaccines cause autism, the federal government will hold its first ever public meeting on Friday to discuss a government-wide research agenda to explore the safety of vaccines.

The meeting is intended to help defuse years of criticism from vaccine skeptics that the government is hiding what it knows about vaccine safety or failing to investigate the issue diligently.

But the gathering is unlikely to appease the government’s many critics in part because the latest notion to grip vaccine skeptics — that vaccinations trigger or worsen something called mitochondrial dysfunction, which in turn causes autism — will remain largely unaddressed.

“I think there could be real frustration,” Dr. Bruce Gellin, director of the National Vaccine Program Office, which is coordinating the meeting, said in an interview on Thursday.

Indeed, Margaret Dunkle, senior fellow at the Center for Health Services Research and Policy at George Washington University, said government experts needed to take into account the latest controversy.

“If they just talk about the same old issues and don’t reflect what we now know and the concession the government has made, that would be a huge disappointment,” Dunkle said.

McCain Reverses Himself On Mortgages

By Michael Cooper

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Sen. John McCain, who drew criticism last month after he warned against broad government intervention to solve the deepening mortgage crisis, pivoted Thursday and called for the federal government to aid some homeowners in danger of losing their homes, by helping them to refinance and get federally guaranteed 30-year mortgages.

“There is nothing more important than keeping alive the American dream to own your home, and priority No.1 is to keep well-meaning, deserving homeowners who are facing foreclosure in their homes,” McCain, R-Ariz., said in a speech on economic themes that he gave at a window company in Brooklyn.

McCain had been painted as uncaring by Democrats, and drew murmurs of concern from some Republicans, after a speech in California last month in which he cautioned that “it is not the duty of government to bail out and reward those who act irresponsibly, whether they are big banks or small borrowers,” and noted that the crisis had been brought on by both lenders and borrowers.

Since then he has gone out of his way to try to signal that he understands that times are tough and that people are hurting. His speech in Brooklyn on Thursday — which is to be followed by what aides are billing as a major economic address next week — was a shift in tone, and part of a new effort to communicate that as president he would act to help Americans in financial distress.

“Let me make it clear,” McCain said, “that in these challenging times, I am committed to using all the resources of this government and great nation to create opportunity and make sure that every deserving American has a good job and can achieve their American dream.”

Guantanamo Bay Detainee Says He’ll Boycott His Trial

By William Glaberson

THE NEW YORK TIMES

GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA

A Sudanese man on Thursday became the latest detainee to present perplexing challenges to the military commissions here, refusing to accept any American lawyer, saying he would boycott court proceedings and delivering a rambling attack on the proposed trials. A military defense lawyer suggested he might be mentally unstable.

The detainee, Ibrahim Ahmed Mahmoud al Qosi, used his arraignment to say that Osama Bin Laden “has succeeded immensely,” adding, “The whole world had a headache, from your hypocrisy that you are the land of justice.”

Al Qosi called the military commissions here sham courts that “move at the pace of a turtle in order to gain some time and keep us in these boxes without any human or legal rights.”

The proceeding was the latest here to raise questions about how the war crimes cases will proceed as some detainees reject American lawyers, refuse to participate and show signs of psychological problems that detainee advocates say are byproducts of years in captivity.

Al Qosi was the third detainee to say in recent weeks he planned to boycott the war crimes court. The boycotts and decisions by some detainees to refuse to work with military defense lawyers are among a host of issues that are slowing proceedings here. Few trials may be completed before the end of the Bush administration in January, some lawyers have said.

Powell Praises Sen. Obama

By Jeff Zeleny

THE NEW YORK TIMES

GARY, IND.

Former Secretary of State Colin L. Powell may have contributed \$2,300 to the Republican presidential campaign of Sen. John McCain, but he is reserving his strongest praise for the Democratic candidacy of Sen. Barack Obama.

In a television interview that was broadcast Thursday, Powell said he “admired” how Obama handled a speech in March on race. He said he agreed with much of what Obama said about the controversial sermons of his former pastor, the Rev. Jeremiah A. Wright Jr.

“I thought that Sen. Obama handled the issue well,” Powell told ABC’s “Good Morning America.” “He didn’t abandon the minister that brought him closer to his faith, but at the same time he deplored the kinds of statements that the Reverend Wright had made.”

Powell noted that he was friends with all three presidential candidates. While he said he had not decided which candidate to support, he said he was impressed by Obama’s ability to “learn quickly.”

“With Sen. Obama, he didn’t have a lot of experience running a presidential campaign, did he?” Powell said. “But he seems to know how to organize a task, and he seems to know how to apply resources to a problem at hand.”

OPINION



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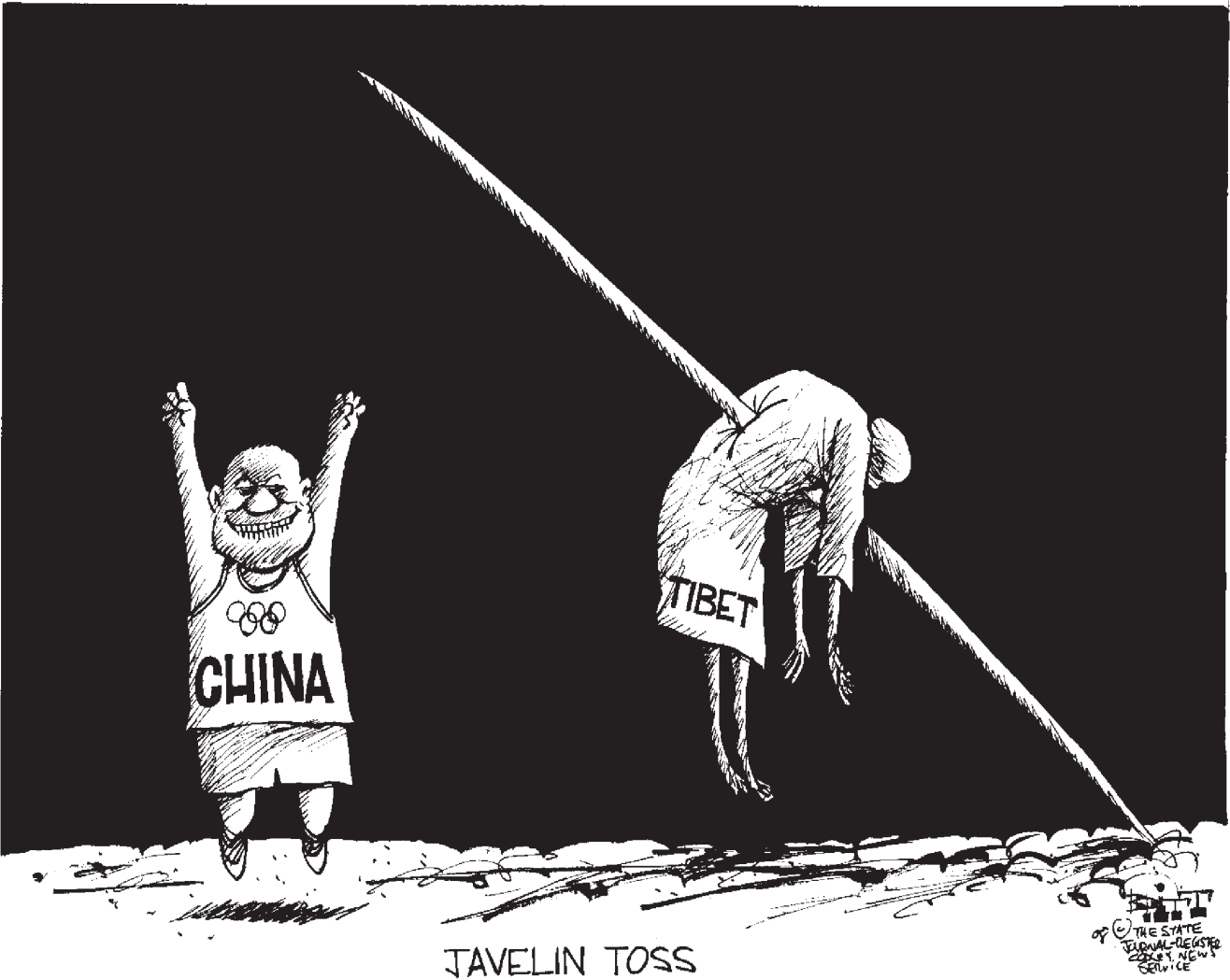
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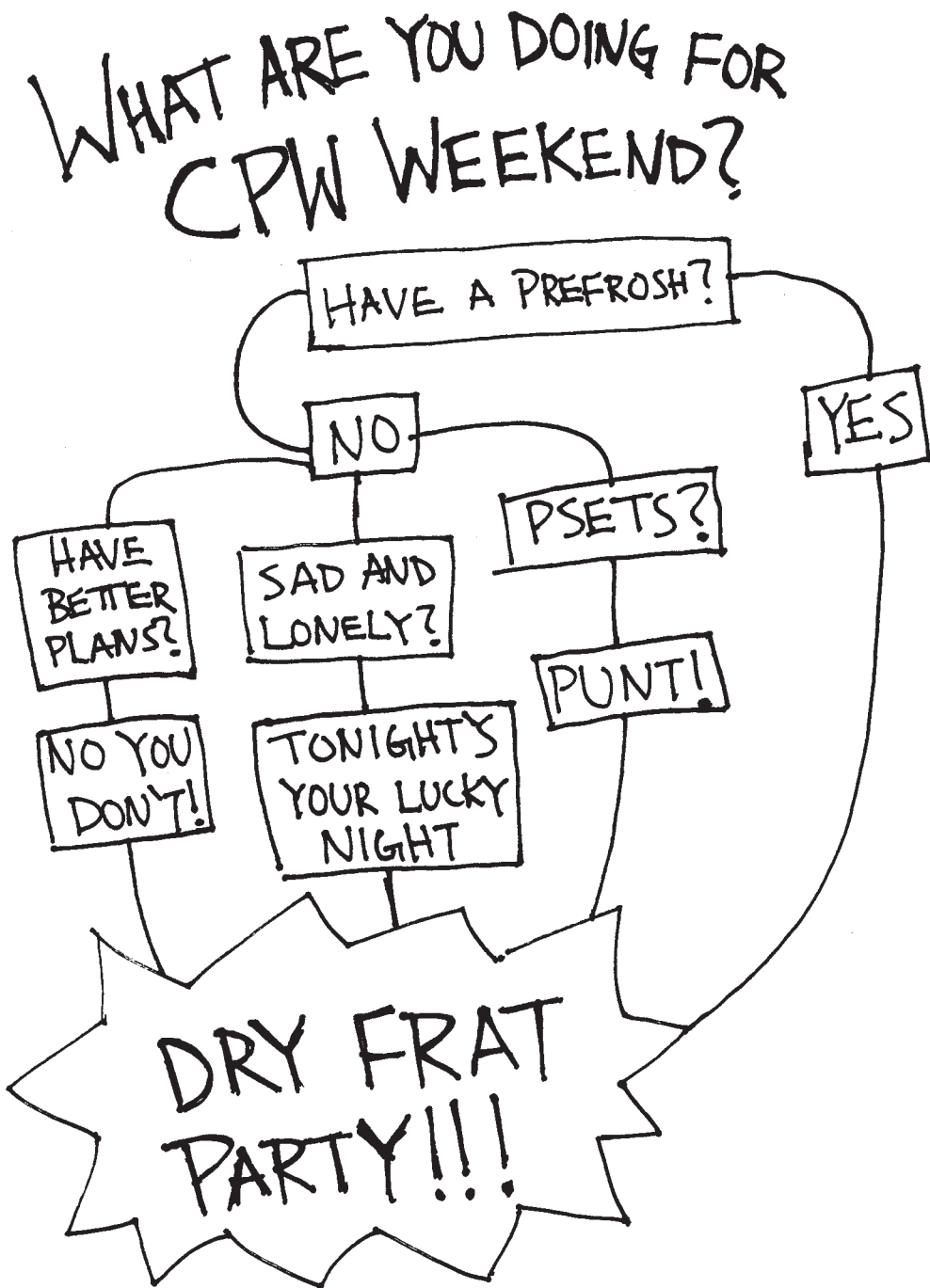
IT'S FRIDAY

Brought to you by CAMPUS LIFE

The Tech, April 11, 2008, Page 5

The Flow of Things

Clearly alcohol is NOT a part of college.



Beginning today, *The Tech* will run weekly flow charts of things relevant to your life. Have an idea? Submit it! Flow charts can be on anything from how you (don't) survive the daily struggle at MIT to the variety of distractions that ultimately lead to that pset being put off until the very last minute.

E-mail flowcharts@tt.mit.edu.

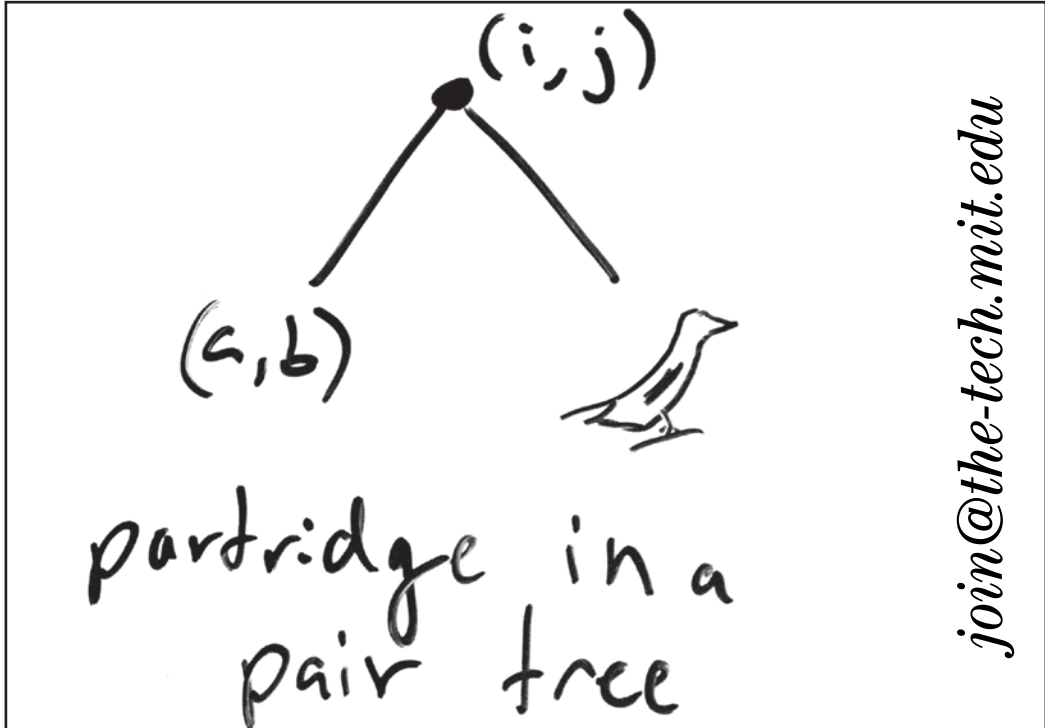
Overheard at MIT

Person 1: "Hey, let's get it on!"
Person 2: "On... what?"

"What does a hanger have to do with abortion?"

"OK, so what is Third Eye Blind?"

"April Fool's Day is on April 1, right?"



WMBR Top Ten Albums of 1990*

Brought to you by Ben Shanks and Dugan Hayes from WMBR 88.1 FM

Ben: We need to write an intro to our top ten or else our editor will beat us up.

Dugan: Dude, I have a paper to do. Why don't you do it?

Ben: I have no creativity right now and I want to go to bed.

Dugan: Come on, it shouldn't be too hard to come up with something. It was your idea anyway.

Ben: What idea? Having a top ten albums of 1990 — the year most pre-frosh were born — for the CPW issue of the Tech?

Dugan: Yeah, as a way of promoting WMBR, the student-run on-campus radio station, which also has a booth at the activities fair and is showing the Pavement documentary at the station on Saturday evening before battle of the bands. You know, the one we had published in the CPW guidebook?

Ben: Well I hope it gets the attention of the hip prefrosh who are interested in doing radio next year!

Dugan: Psh, like anyone would ever pay attention to a top ten of 1990 that didn't include Cop Shoot Cop or Alice in Chains!

Ben: Grunge sucked, Dugan. Get over it.

Editor: You guys suck at making up self promoting conversations. I mean, what the fuck? I ask you to write an intro and you phone in this self promotional conversation? I can't believe I'm giving you space in the newspaper. Also Dugan, I know you still keep plaid shirts in your closet but seriously, grunge sucked.

10. They Might Be Giants, "Flood"

As quirky, humorous, and fun as always, TMBG wrote some of their most infectious and unabashedly dorky (and sometimes inscrutable) songs for the record that scored them two videos on "Tiny Toons." "Birdhouse" may have been the hit, but "Dead" is my personal favorite.

9. The Breeders, "Pod"

You may know them from "Cannonball," but before Kim and Kelley Deal were in car commercials there was the Breeders' dynamic debut album "Pod" — Kurt Cobain's favorite record ever. Bitter but still fun, "Iris" is a perfect rock-out track.

8. Jawbreaker, "Unfun"

In a time when punk, well, sort of sucked, Jawbreaker reinvigorated the scene with an intelligent, literary (count the Kerouac allusions), and uniquely melancholic approach. "Want" is the most accessible track on their debut.

7. Spacemen 3, "Taking Drugs to Make Music to Take Drugs To"

The title says it all — Spacemen 3 were masters of making ultra-mellow psychedelic guitar harmonies that perfectly soundtrack a sunset, an afternoon nap, or (of course) a drug trip. "Amen" is a great example that also anticipates the gospel influence of Pierce's later band Spiritualized.

6. The Jesus Lizard, "Head"

tJL's debut featured that unmistakable Chicago Albini-produced sound — low vocals and heavy on the fuzz. Dark lyrics typify their brutal noise-rock — like a way angrier Sonic Youth. "7 vs 8" is the Jesus Lizard at their best.

5. The Pixies, "Bossanova"

From here in Boston, the Pixies conquered college rock with impossibly catchy riffs and Black Francis's spastic vocals, and Bossanova is the surfer, spacier followup to their breakthrough "Doolittle." "Velouria" is so good that the theremin doesn't even sound annoying.

4. A Tribe Called Quest, "People's Instinctive Travels and the Paths of Rhythm"

Releasing their debut in 1990, Tribe managed to hit the perfect balance between political lyricism and laid-back but innovative beats, essentially setting the bar for underground hip-hop. "Bonita Applebum" features both a great melody from Q-Tip and the sitar.

3. Galaxie 500, "This Is Our Music"

This shamefully underappreciated Boston band cemented their legacy with this, their final release. Opener "Fourth of July" typifies everything great about Galaxie 500 — a dreamy, feedback-laden landscape cut by poetically lazy vocals about surreally mundane topics and a great guitar hook.

2. Sonic Youth, "Goo"

Could no-wavers turned alt-rockers Sonic Youth preserve the urgency, the kool attitude, and more importantly the kick-ass noise squall of their previous output on their major label debut? Check out "Dirty Boots" if you have any doubts.

1. Fugazi, "Repeater"

The debut LP from Fugazi is also their gem, bursting with 3-chord punk spiced with funk and reggae influence. "Merchandise" is their anthem and manifesto — today's image-conscious hipster set could stand to listen to frontman Ian Mackaye's defiant "You are not what you own!"

*E-mail us at pd@wmbr.org (or seek us out at our events) if you disagree. Seriously, we love arguing about music. Listen to WMBR on the air at 88.1 FM or online at wmbr.org for the best independent, underground, and underplayed music

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ARTS

CONCERT REVIEW

Three Nights of Da Dirty Jicks

Malkmus Tour Draws Loud Cloud Crowds

By Sarah Dupuis

ARTS EDITOR

Stephen Malkmus and The Jicks
The Fillmore at the TLA, Paradise Rock Club
and Mass MoCA
Saturday, March 29, Thursday, April 3, and
Friday, April 4, 2008

Disregarding the aching belly of my slim wallet, I shelled out to see Stephen Malkmus and The Jicks three times on their North American tour (well, okay, one night was compensated, but still). Had all three New York dates not sold out almost instantly, I'd probably have bought tickets for them, too. Did I do it out of fanaticism? For the sake of x-treme journalism? Or did I just have nothing better to do with my time? Regardless of motives, I got to catch three great concerts, each one markedly different from the last despite the unavoidable similarities.

At the start of every show, the audience shouted requests before the group had even reached their instruments. Though many shouted for Jicks singles "Jenny & The Ess-dog" and "(Do Not Feed The) Oyster," there were just as many cries for Pavement tunes. That second brand of request was never honored, and why should it have been? Almost a decade has passed since the lights dimmed on Pavement, and Malkmus has released almost as many albums with the Jicks (four, if you count *Face the Truth*) as he ever did with Pavement (five). The group has more than enough material to draw from without dipping into the catalog of their front man's old band.

And since Malkmus is now much more interested in eternal guitar soloing than singing (see Tech article "SM & Jicks Make Art Out of 'Trash'"), it was tough enough to cram in

the jammy Jicks' repertoire into the setlist. Though each night revolved around tracks from new album *Real Emotional Trash*, the band also played different songs from past albums, including the endearingly cheesy "Vanessa From Queens" and the unstoppably rollicking "Baby C'mon." They also did a cover each night; in Philly, Malkmus approximated The Beatles' "Taxman"; at Paradise, Fear's "I Don't Care About You"; at Mass MoCA, Tanya Tucker's "Can't Run From Yourself."

The biggest variations from show to show had to do with band dynamics. In Philly, Malkmus (for all his guitar proficiency) was consistently out of tune; "Cold Son" was downright unbearable. Perhaps this is the reason why bassist Joanna Bolme wore such a sour face all night, or maybe it had to do with the fact that she kept messing up (which drummer Janet Weiss made fun of her for). Either way, no one on stage seemed very happy except keyboardist/guitarist Mike Clark, who posed and played energetically throughout the set.

Mass MoCA's spacey layout and excellent acoustics generated a more laid back attitude; Malkmus stopped after the intro of "Water and a Seat" to tune, which built suspense rather than



SARAH DUPUIS—THE TECH

Jicks front man Stephen Malkmus focuses during a guitar solo at Paradise Rock Club on Thursday, April 3.

detracted from performance, and the group playfully riffed long past songs' prescribed endings. The set was also loose, as audiences have come to expect from Malkmus, and stood in stark contrast to musically tight (but also excellent) opener John Vanderslice.

The best by far of the three dates, however, was the sold-out show at Paradise. Each of Weiss' drum fills was crisp and forceful, Bolme

kidded with the audience about the lack of pot ("I smell no weed at this show at all. What's wrong with you?"), and Malkmus' perfectly in tune guitars transformed even the most tame album tracks into epic jams. And for those local fans curious to hear Malkmus' views on their home city, he had this to say during the show: "Boston? It's a nice street ... a real nice street."

MOVIE REVIEW ★★★1/2

A Bold Red Balloon

Drifting Quietly Through Parisian Lives

By Praveen Rathinavelu

ARTS EDITOR

Flight of the Red Balloon
Directed by Hou Hsiao-hsien
Written by Hou Hsiao-hsien and François
Margolin
Starring: Juliette Binoche, Simon Iteanu, and
Fang Song
Rated PG
Opens Friday, April 18 in Limited Release

In Hou Hsiao-hsien's *Flight of the Red Balloon*, the balloon in question seems to drift into every corner of a melancholy-tinged Paris; it drags through a quiet skyline and is glazed onto the side of a building, it sits within oil paintings and computer screens. Most prominently, the balloon occupies an unspoken space in a small network of Parisian lives: it sparks their perception and weighs on their memory.

But Hou's film is largely concerned with looking at life through a lens attuned to the small aesthetic wonders of the world, the abstract mess of color and sound that usually cap-

tivates children. Consequently, the film's gaze usually springs from that of a little boy, Simon (Simon Iteanu), and expands to the adults that are a part of his life. While the film traces these interweaving lives, the balloon repeatedly — insistently — drifts in and out of scenes, vibrantly red and full of life.

The action taking place in the forefront of the film is slightly more defined than the balloon's vague, drifting path (but only slightly). It focuses primarily on Simon, his mother Suzanne (Juliette Binoche), and his baby-sitter Song (Fang Song). *Flight* offers fragments of their lives, fluidly and beautifully linked to give us an understanding of its characters, but ones that don't build to any conventional narrative structure. Hou's film is truly, and unabashedly, about nothing more than the way a child presses into his own reflection in a car window, or the way a mother looks at her child.

One of the reasons *Flight* doesn't need to rely on the usual film pyrotechnics is Suzanne, an explosive and unforgettable character in her own right. The highest praise I can offer Binoche's

performance is that I have rarely seen a female character so vibrant and engaging outside of an Almodóvar film. In the mold of Penelope Cruz's character in *Volver*, Suzanne is all color and choler; she both smiles and scowls with a full-bodied vitality, and sheds tears without a bit of melodrama. The only fitting outlet for her volatile expressiveness is in her performances as a puppetmaster (an affectionate reference to Hou's previous film, *The Puppetmaster*). Suzanne roots herself deeply in this Chinese art form, and channels both her melancholy and delight into tales of men who try to boil the sea to find their lost lovers.

The film sometimes drifts into unexplained memories of Simon with his sister, Louise (Louise Margolin), but largely focuses on Song, Simon, and Suzanne. The film's heart seems to

hide somewhere in the scenes when Song and Simon are walking through the streets of Paris. Song is a film student from China and, referencing the 1956 film *The Red Balloon* (which also seems to be this film's inspiration), she uses her hand-held camera to make films that clearly echo Hou's own conscience as a director (they are about a red balloon).

Like almost every other bit of *Flight of the Red Balloon*, Song demonstrates a kind of subdued vigor; she reveals everything about herself in quiet gestures. We are shown bits of her films, and they provide a deeper dialogue about Song's character than anything else we could hope for. Like the balloon framed in Song's handcam, bobbing quietly, Hou's film leaves us with abstract, but deeply enduring emotion.

Like almost every other bit of 'Flight of the Red Balloon,' Song demonstrates a kind of subdued vigor; she reveals everything about herself ...

CONCERT REVIEW

Sasha and Digweed Melt Faces, Shake Booties

Tour Opener at The Estate a Transcendental Dance Experience

By Benjamin P. Gleitzman

STAFF WRITER

Sasha and John Digweed
The Estate
April 2, 2008

April in Boston can be a rough time for electronic music fans. For those who couldn't make the pilgrimage last month to Miami for the Winter Music Conference, the perpetual mist and bluster of the northeast might leave the heart yearning for the warm beaches and thumping bass of more hospitable party scenes.

However, a brilliant spec of neon hope shone through for clubbers at last week's debut of Sasha and John Digweed's Spring Club Tour 2008 at The Estate. With a rediscovered affinity for smaller venues, the two Brits are back on the road together for the first time since the 2002 Delta Heavy tour, excluding isolated per-

formances like last year's Bonnaroo. That last tour featured large arena performances that at times smacked more of a rock concert than a rave scene. This time around, superior sound systems and more intimate settings define the month-long tour.

Perhaps inspired by the Addams Family-esque appearance of the dimly lit candelabras and antediluvian chandeliers adorning The Estate, tour opener and Los Angeles resident Kazell (Kevin Bazell) abandoned his usual soulful style and kicked off the night with an hour of deep house and dark techno, leaving some in the audience to wonder if the crowd might be too comatose for the high energy performance to come. But

as Digweed took the decks amid the backdrop of a large, pulsating LCD display, it became apparent that the energy in the room would not be contained.

The ride to follow was a throwback to late 90's club scenes, with silky transitions and melodic riffs punctuated by ripping bass beats. If Kazell matched the haunted atmosphere of The Estate mansion, Digweed transformed it into a high-energy dance palace. By the time Sasha (Alexander Coe) approached the tables, ubiquitous glowstick twirlers had materialized out of the woodwork — blending well with the tour's hypnotic light display and completing the metamorphosis.

Between Sasha's mellifluous, arpeggiated chords and Digweed's darker drum and bass style, the audience was the only clear winner.

Through an unwavering four hour set, the two engaged in an aural battle for the ecstatic crowd. Between Sasha's mellifluous, arpeggiated chords and Digweed's darker drum and bass style, the audience was the only clear winner. The impressive sound system was a boon, accentuating the practiced, subtle technical transitions between tracks. By the time the bouncers were ready to clear the floor, the electronic duo refused to leave the stage. Finishing an encore set with an uplifting electronic cacophony, the two DJ's clasped hands, triumphant. Panting, faces melted, the satisfied crowd slunk back into the slightly-less-chilly Boston air.

With tour dates spanning the rest of this month, the Spring Club Tour 2008 culminates with a performance at the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival on April 26. For more information visit <http://www.djsasha.com/> or <http://www.johndigweed.com/>.

Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo



Pseudoscience

by Daniel Klein-Marcuschamer

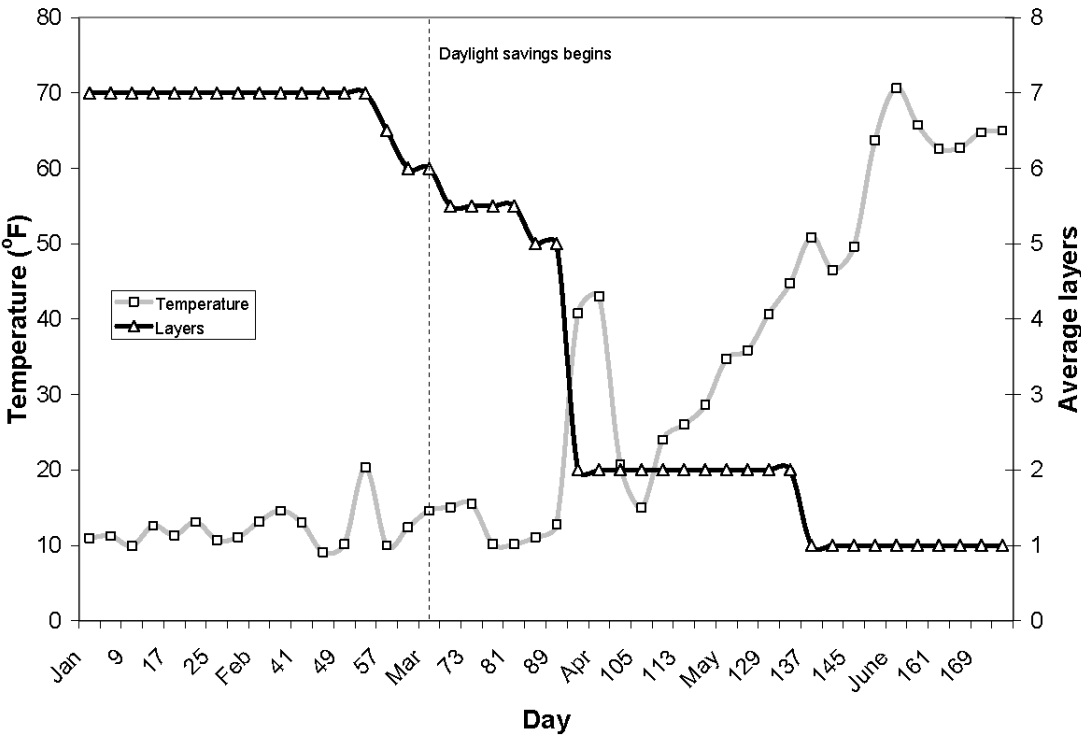


Figure 31. The graph shows the trends in temperature and number of clothing layers in Cambridge, MA, from January 1st (day 1) to mid-June. In general, clothing thickness decreases as the temperature increases, but these variables are not perfectly correlated. Instead, sharp decreases in average layers respond to key facts; for example, the number decreases when daylight savings time begins, regardless of temperature. In addition, small fluctuations in temperature can cause sharp decreases, especially when they happen after mid-March. We conclude that *perceived* rather than *actual* temperature is more important in the layering decision process.

su | do | ku

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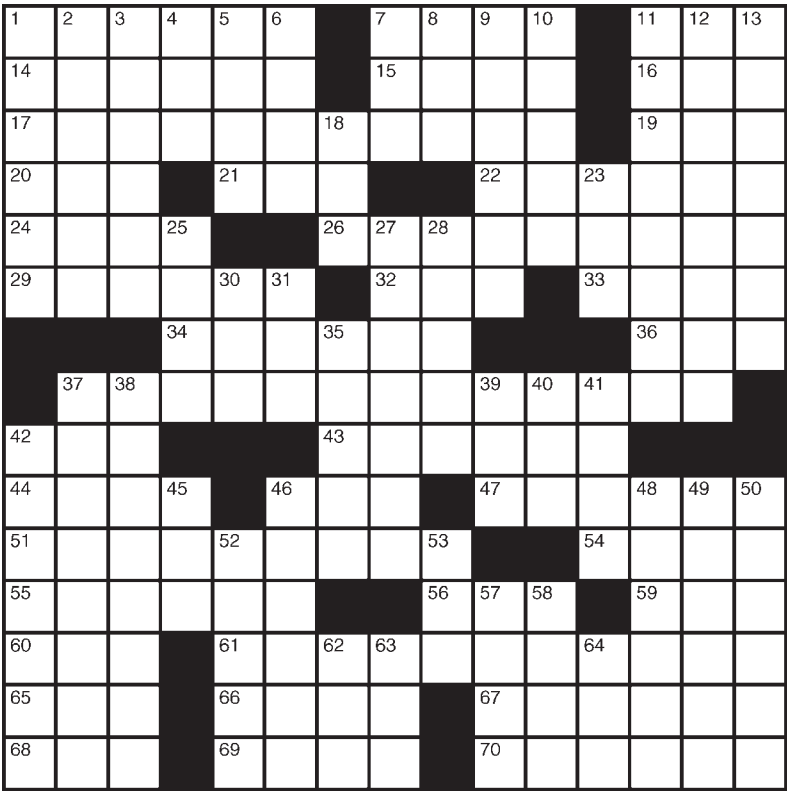
		6	3	9			4
9					2		5
	4						3
		5	2				
7				4			8
					3	1	
	8						1
	6		8				2
	9			7	1	5	

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.
Solution, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>; see also solution, page 14.

Crossword Puzzle

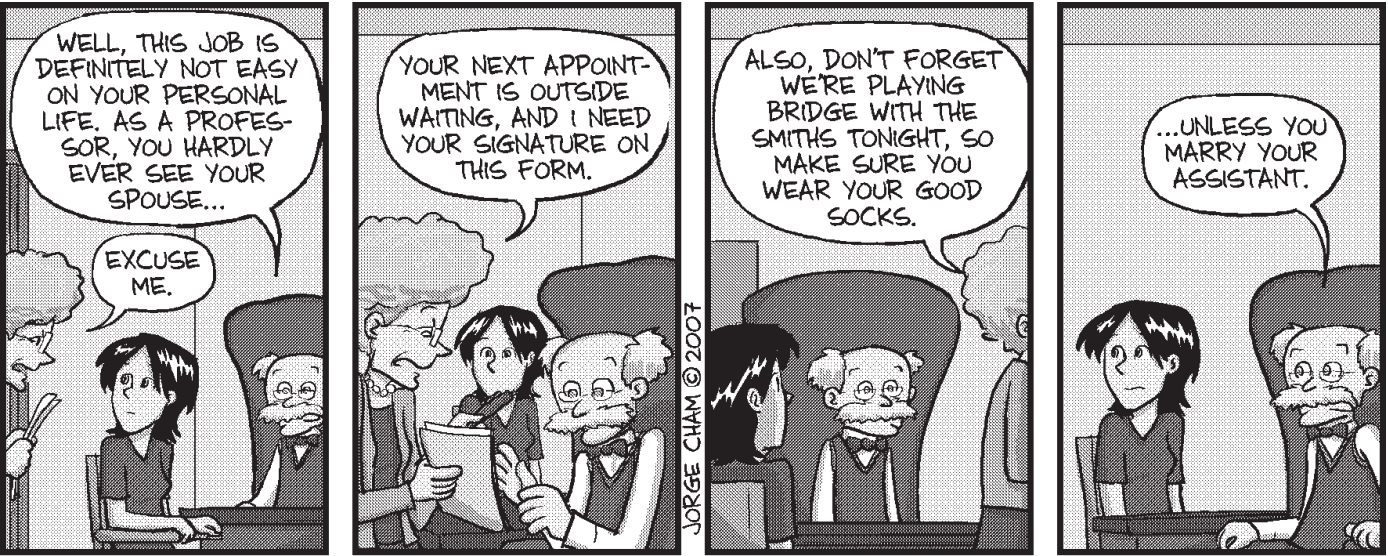
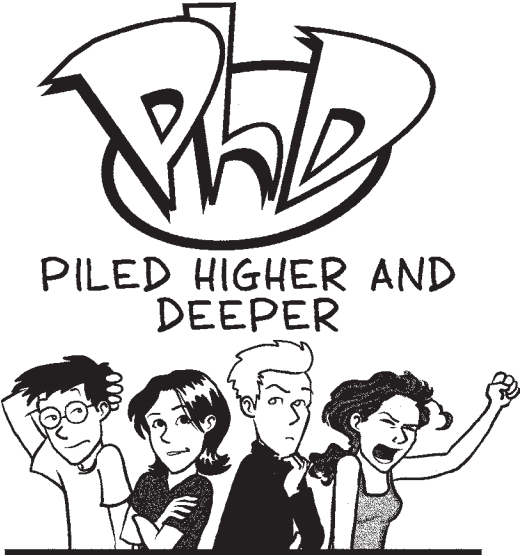
Solution, page 14

- ACROSS**
- 1 Group of seven
 - 7 Well-tuned engine sound
 - 11 Actress Tyler
 - 14 Aquatic mammals
 - 15 "The African Queen" screenwriter
 - 16 "___ Fine Day"
 - 17 Scrooge's clerk
 - 19 TV adjunct
 - 20 Brief life story
 - 21 ___ Lanka
 - 22 In a plucky way
 - 24 Vim and vigor
 - 26 With 61A, Marine cartoon hero
 - 29 Bring back
 - 32 Dog tags
 - 33 Favored soprano
 - 34 Change genetically
 - 36 Tycoon Turner
 - 37 Animated construction worker
 - 42 Yore
 - 43 TV classic, "___ Room"
 - 44 Manner
 - 46 Again, in music
 - 47 Potemkin mutiny site
 - 51 Dolphin in Canton
 - 54 Goopy mass
 - 55 Old sayings
 - 56 UFO personnel
 - 59 Personal pension \$
 - 60 Part of RSVP
 - 61 See 26A
 - 65 Remote ctrl. button
 - 66 Ballet wear
 - 67 Actress Smith
 - 68 Mos. and mos.
 - 69 Look for
 - 70 Wrote in a tiresome style
- DOWN**
- 1 Weeper
 - 2 French star
 - 3 McHale's TV craft
 - 4 Old-time gumshoe
 - 5 Goofs up
 - 6 Russian sovereign
 - 7 Pol's cash provider
 - 8 Yuck!
 - 9 Rules
 - 10 Mark new prices
 - 11 Affectionate nip
 - 12 On Easy Street?
 - 13 Beyond naughty
 - 18 "___ the season..."
 - 23 Part of MD
 - 25 Unfeeling
 - 27 Casino worker
 - 28 Concert hall
 - 30 Same old same old
 - 31 Utmost degree
 - 35 Eagle's nest
 - 37 More gory
 - 38 Eccentrics
 - 39 NYSE entry
 - 40 ___ Zeppelin
 - 41 Residue
 - 42 Ambassador and his staff
 - 45 Easter treat
 - 46 Creamy soup
 - 48 Broken-bone supporters
 - 49 Aerial combat mission
 - 50 Humiliated
 - 52 Takes five
 - 53 End of auction?
 - 57 Office fill-in
 - 58 Go a round with?
 - 62 Shoshone
 - 63 Arctic sea bird
 - 64 Gone by

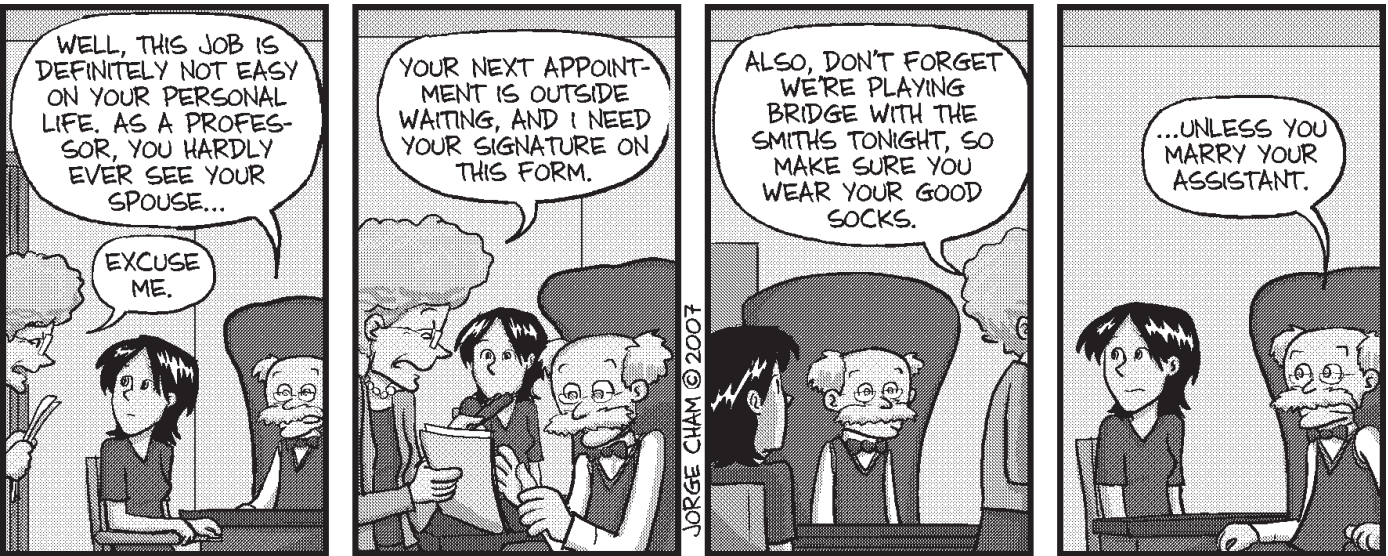
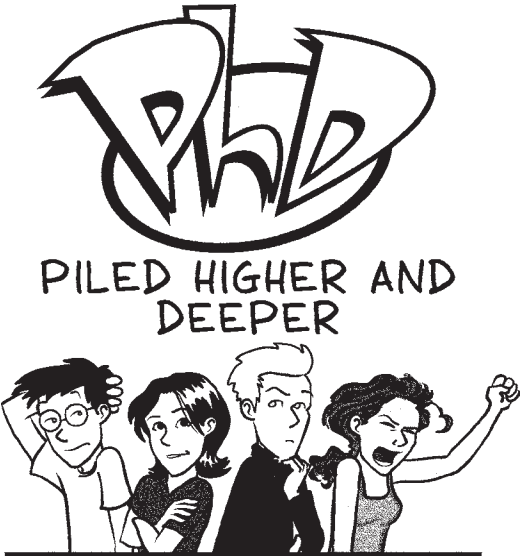


Theory of Pete

by Cai GoGwilt



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by Ben Peters

My CPW

Me

Did you know Kresge is 1/8 of a perfect sphere?

No.

5 minutes later...

Hey! Did you know Kresge is 1/8 of a perfect sphere?

Yes.

15 minutes later...

And to finish our tour, I would like to point out that Kresge is 1/8 of a perfect sphere.

Sweet

Wow!

gnarly..

grr..

4 hours later.

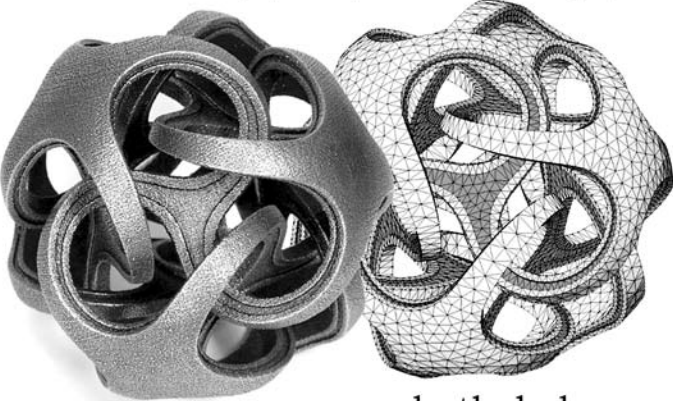
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W H C I R N E W W H R I R E S R A R G
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L N A G I D D A C F I S H E R E G A H
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A C S R E Z L I T N O V H O M W E A N
M K T H E S U B G R A N T W A Y D V I
Y L L E K S C H L E I F F A R T H E L

maurice ABRAHAMS
irving BERLIN
brennan CADDIGAN
al CONIGISKY
rennie j. CORMACK
herman DAREWSKI
harry DE COSTA
lucien DENNI
eleanor DEWEY
william a. DILLON
r.w. EDWARDS
george EVANS
a. FARMER
frank FAY

fred FISHER
i. FURMAN-MULLINER
byron GAY
bert GRANT
frederick w. HAGER
henri LE VERNE
harry j. LINCOLN
f.h. LOSEY
charles d. MACDONALD
keller MACK
henry t. MARSHALL
james MONACO
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joe NATHAN
theodore NORMAN
abe OLMAN
charles j. ORTH
e.t. PAULL
george SCHLEIFFARTH
adaline SHEPHERD
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Prospective Students Consider MIT, But They've Got Options

Preview, from Page 1

native, standing in a crowd of people during last night's CPW Festival, described CPW as "very loud." She was also accepted at Princeton University, Cornell University, and Dartmouth College, and she said she is not yet sure about attending MIT. Bagamery said she is interested in studying chemistry. People at CPW "are much more global than I expected," she said.

David Zhou, from Wilton, Conn., said he thinks CPW is "great." He's "definitely leaning" towards MIT, and he said he hopes that CPW will

confirm this inclination.

Noah Brown, a prospective student from Iowa City, IA, has recently attended Interlochen, an arts preparatory school in Michigan. Brown plays the bassoon in orchestras and solos, and has played a concert in Carnegie Hall.

Brown is currently deciding among MIT, Stanford University, the University of Pennsylvania, and Princeton University. "You have to give those schools their due," he said.

About CPW, he said, "It's slightly disorganized, slightly psychotic, but I love it."



ALEX H. CHAN—THE TECH
Prospective students participate in an icebreaker at the 2008 Campus Preview Weekend Welcome in Rockwell Cage yesterday.



MONICA KAHN—THE TECH
Prospective freshmen line up to receive liquid nitrogen ice cream sponsored by the second floor of the west parallel of East Campus.



OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH
Daniel E. Klenk '09 (center) shows prospective freshmen Michaela LaVan (left) and Qingnan Li (not pictured) how to get to Next House as his own prefrush, Ryan Terbush (right) looks on.



OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH
Katie Harrington (center) and Liz Levin (right) help carve a camel out of a large block of ice during yesterday night's Campus Preview Weekend Festival.



OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH
Prospective freshman Sarah Southerland removes a 2x4 while playing 2x4 Jenga at yesterday night's CPW Festival. Jenga was sponsored by Random House.



MONICA KAHN—THE TECH
Prospective student Kirsten Hessler drives a tricycle off a ramp at the 2008 Campus Preview Weekend Festival in Johnson Ice Rink.

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1-246



Innovations in Communication Could Speed Flood Recovery

India, from Page 1

from the Himalayas that starts right on its northern border. Since 2002, parts of Bihar have suffered severe flooding every year. Lives and livelihoods have been lost as crops have been inundated and animals have starved. Nine months after last year’s disastrous flood, some of the waters still haven’t drained away.

Here’s the problem: it’s hard to collect information about which areas are hit worst by a flood. The first response (food rations, first aid kits and so on) ought to occur within 48 hours of the flood.

Presently, collecting and analyzing the information and distributing it among various responders takes around a month. Meanwhile, under-supply leads to people going hungry, while oversupply produces corruption and long-term economic problems.

This is where we come in. Our plan is to develop a cell phone-based application which the operatives can use to gather information and send it back to a central server, where instant analysis would make the information available throughout the organization.

We have man-eating pineapples



join@the-tech.mit.edu

It’s just the right time to develop such a system — cell coverage in Bihar is good and improving rapidly, and relief workers use phones extensively. Also, donors are beginning to see information and communications infrastructure as a necessity rather than a waste of money.

To be sure, there are problems. Internet access at the CRS offices is reliable, but the electricity is flaky.

Offices are all equipped with battery backups and generators often supply backup power. (Sometimes this backfires. One time the grid went down while I was in the CRS office in Delhi. The generator started, but wasn’t working properly: the overhead lights started flashing and the air conditioner made an ominous rattling noise — it felt like a cheap Exorcist remake! One of the CRS staff ran to turn them off, then tried to reassure me: “Don’t worry — we’ve only had one fire here.”)

I spent several days visiting villages affected by last year’s floods. Nine months later, much arable land remains underwater and hence unusable. Recovery from the destruction of crops and livestock will take a while.

Villagers’ biggest complaint was that they have no warning of an impending flood and thereby no time to get their property and livestock to safety. This is another area where cell phones could come in useful — adoption in rural India is growing rapidly and there’s at least one cell phone owner in most villages.

I was encouraged by how keen Indian companies are to get involved with helping the less well-off. I met with the Head of Corporate Sustainability of a major Indian cellphone operator, and he was very excited about our project.

He suggested using their ubiquitous network of manned public phone booths to collect and disseminate information. He suggested a long-term partnership between his company and MIT — which made a great end to a very productive trip.

We plan to run an initial trial of our solution this summer, in time for the monsoon in mid-June. Our work has revealed an exciting area with rapid growth and a lot of innovation. It’s rare for computer scientists to be able to make a positive difference in the world.

Police Log

The following incidents were reported to the MIT Police between Feb. 27, 2008 and April 3, 2008. This summary does not include incidents such as false alarms, general service calls, or medical shuttles.

Feb. 28:

W61 (471 Memorial Dr.), 1:54 a.m., Vehicle broken into while parked on Fowler St., GPS stolen.

Mar. 4:

Windsor Lot, 9:15 a.m., Vehicle broken into, GPS stolen.

Briggs Field, 10:56 a.m., Two individuals arrested on outstanding warrants: Marian O’Toole of 20 Cottage St., Natick, MA. and Kevin Fernandez of 637 Western Ave., Lynn, MA.

Mar. 11:

M3 (33 Mass. Ave.), 9:49 a.m., Breaking and entering; larceny reported for two prior incidents.

M3 (33 Mass. Ave.), 11:01 a.m., Breaking and entering; larceny reported.

NW10 (143 Albany St.), 11:49 a.m., Past larceny of laptop reported.

Mar. 12:

M50 (142 Memorial Dr.), 6:48 p.m., Person reports harassing phone calls.

Mar. 12:

M3 (33 Mass. Ave), 1:33 a.m., Larceny of ladder.

Mar. 16:

W20 (84 Mass. Ave), 1:09 p.m., Person reports harassing text messages from unknown party.

Beta Theta Pi (119 Bay State Rd.), 2:38 p.m., Reported larceny of laptop.

W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 4:26 p.m., Wallet reported stolen from student center reading room.

Mar. 18:

M13 (105 Rear Mass. Ave.), 12:56 p.m., Trespass; Arrested Mikhail Shklyar of 21 Beckford St., Beverly, MA., for trespass after notice.

W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 5:57 p.m., Fraudulent use of checks.

M14N (160 Memorial Dr., FL 416), 6:52 p.m., Handbag reported stolen from office.

Mar. 20:

W7 (362 Memorial Dr.), 12:58 p.m., Breaking and entering; laptop and jewelry stolen.

Mar. 21:

E15 (20 Ames St.), 1:03 p.m., Breaking and entering; Camera stolen from office.

W61 (450 Memorial Dr.), 1:33 p.m., GPS stolen from vehicle.

W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 2:07 p.m., Person reports receiving annoying e-mails.

N42 (211 Mass. Ave.), 3:13 p.m., Breaking and entering; Six laptops stolen from N42-010P locked office.

Mar. 23:

N51 (275 Mass. Ave.), 11:18 a.m., Electrical meter stolen.

E55 (60 Wadsworth St.), 9:22 p.m., Caller reports disturbance in apartment above them.

Mar. 25:

W84 (550 Memorial Dr.), 12:42 p.m., Report of identity theft.

Mar. 28:

E23 (25 Carleton St.), 11:55 a.m., Threats to commit a crime.

E23 (25 Carleton St.), 1:18 p.m., Past larceny of a debit card.

Mar. 30:

M50 (142 Memorial Dr.), 11:43 p.m., Suspicious person; William Bambery of 12 Whipple Ave., Stoneham, MA., arrested on outstanding warrant.

Mar. 31:

E25 (45 Carleton St.), 9:01 a.m., Computers reported stolen.

W89 (291 Vassar St.), 11:21 a.m., Man reports assault by a person known to him.

Sigma Nu (523 Newbury St.), 6:57 p.m., Breaking and entering; Nintendo Wii and computer stolen.

W71 (500 Memorial Dr.), 10:01 p.m., Pizza delivery vehicle stolen.

April 1:

E17 (40 Ames St.), 2:16 p.m., Breaking and entering; computer stolen.

April 2:

E15 (20 Ames St.), 2:22 p.m., Larceny of audio equipment.

No. 6 / Delta Psi (428 Memorial Dr.), 7:08 p.m., Vehicle broken into while parked on Fowler St., GPS stolen.

April 3:

W1 (384 Memorial Dr.), 9:18 a.m., Breaking and entering without force; laptop stolen.

W84 (550 Memorial Dr.), 1:12 p.m., Report of bike stolen.

COMPILED BY NICK SEMENKOVICH

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Student Center Cleaners Closed by State

By Michael McGraw-Herdeg
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

If students looked a little wrinkly this week, it's probably because their dry cleaners have been out of a job.

Alpha Cleaners, in the basement of the Student Center, was shut down on Monday because its owner had not paid for worker's compensation insurance, according to Linnea Walsh, communications director at the Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development. It will likely reopen soon.

MIT noticed the closure on Wednesday and got in touch with the owner Thursday, said Phillip J. Walsh, director of the Campus Activities Complex, which manages the Student Center.

The owner, ShiRu Huang, hoped to obtain worker's compensation insurance and reopen the store tomorrow, said Phil Walsh, who said he had been able to reach Huang Thursday afternoon. Calls from *The Tech* to a "S Huang" listed in the Boston white pages were not answered.

All Massachusetts businesses are required by law to have worker's compensation insurance policies. Businesses that do not hold policies may be closed if the state's Department of Industrial Accidents finds out.

Linnea Walsh said relying on tips and an information database, the agency determined that Alpha Cleaners might not have worker's compensation insurance. An employee visited the site and verified that it was not insured, and a "stop work order" was issued that was effective Monday.

Huang's dry cleaning business is at five locations. The other four are properly insured, said Rob Lamontagne, a spokesman for the state executive office.

In order to reopen, a business owner must show that they now have insurance, and they must pay a fine of \$100 per day they were closed. So Huang must pay a fine of \$500 if he obtains worker's compensation insurance and reopens the dry cleaner's tomorrow.

"For every business that doesn't have a worker's comp policy in place, that drives up costs," said Linnea Walsh.

Solution to Crossword

from page 7

S	E	P	T	E	T	P	U	R	R	L	I	V
O	T	T	E	R	S	A	G	E	E	O	N	E
B	O	B	C	R	A	T	C	H	I	T	V	O
B	I	O	S	R	I	G	A	M	E	L	Y	
E	L	A	N	S	P	O	N	G	E	B	O	B
R	E	T	U	R	N	I	D	S	D	I	V	A
			M	U	T	A	T	E		T	E	D
	B	O	B	T	H	E	B	U	I	L	D	E
E	L	D			R	O	M	P	E	R		
M	O	D	E	B	I	S	O	D	E	S	S	A
B	O	B	G	R	I	E	S	E		G	L	O
A	D	A	G	E	S		E	T	S	I	R	A
S	I	L	S	Q	U	A	R	E	P	A	N	T
S	E	L	T	U	T	U	M	A	G	G	I	E
Y	R	S		S	E	E	K		P	R	O	S

Solution to Sudoku

from page 7

1	5	6	3	9	8	2	4	7
9	7	3	4	6	2	8	5	1
2	4	8	1	5	7	6	3	9
8	3	5	2	1	9	7	6	4
7	1	9	5	4	6	3	2	8
6	2	4	7	8	3	1	9	5
3	8	7	9	2	5	4	1	6
5	6	1	8	3	4	9	7	2
4	9	2	6	7	1	5	8	3

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Community Responds To Homophobic E-mail With Letter, Forum

Sloan, from Page 1

members of Sloan LGBT. COD hearings generally include the accused student, an “advisor” the student chooses from the MIT community to help support him, and members of the COD. The advisor cannot speak at the hearing.

Before the COD hearings, LGBT officers strongly advocated expulsion of the student.

“If that same incident had happened in any Fortune 500 Company that employee would have been terminated no questions asked,” said Armet.

Sloan administrators had earlier “indicated to us that they felt at least suspension was warranted,” said Silverberg. The contents of the complaint filed by the Sloan administration against the student are considered confidential by the COD.

Prior to the hearings, the student underwent psychological evaluation, Silverberg said.

Although the sanctions against the student have not been made public, they do not include suspension or expulsion, since the person is still a student at Sloan.

Widnall said in an interview that possible sanctions might include a probation period or a letter in the student’s file. A letter placed in a student’s file is available only to the student, his advisor, and the COD, and it is destroyed after the student graduates.

Neither the COD nor administrators at the Sloan school were able to comment on any sanctions received by the offending student.

After the hearing took place, members of the LGBT community shared the incident with the Sloan community at large.

After many debates and disagreements among group members about how to release information, they finally decided to distribute a printed letter that included the text of the offending e-mail. The student’s name and nationality were removed to ensure that it wasn’t a “witch hunt” targeting the individual, said Armet.

Returning from spring break on March 31, Sloan students found the letter in their mailboxes. It asked for the community to “consider that harassment and threats toward minority groups are still real, still prevalent, and still require an unwavering commitment and vigilance to root out.”

Raphael G., a Sloan LGBT member who asked not to be identified by his full name because not all his relatives know he is gay, has been in contact with the student since late January. Raphael, after meeting with the student, said, “from very early on, within 5 or 10 minutes [of the meeting’s start, I] felt this person is not a threat to me or the LGBT community.”

“The incident occurred due to a deeply rooted cultural belief, not reflective of innate homophobia,” Raphael said.

Raphael stressed that while this belief doesn’t excuse the individual from writing the e-mail, it will help the community learn how to prevent

a future occurrence.

Raphael said he understands that not everyone in the LGBT community feels the same way as he does. But based on his personal contact with the individual, said he believes an expulsion or suspension would have been unjust.

“I know the writer has learned a lot. It is a great opportunity for our community to come together” and to learn from the incident, said Raphael.

In contrast, Silverberg expressed dissatisfaction with the COD’s decision.

“The administration has essentially sent me a signal saying that they see fit to allow a student that explicitly threatened me to be in class with me an hour and a half twice a week,” he said.

Privacy implications of academic records motivate the confidentiality of COD hearings, said David Kennedy, Director, Office of Student Mediation & Community Standards and a staff member who helps COD keep its records. The Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act protects students from having academic records distributed to a third party without their consent, he said.

“The process may be clear on the Web site but the decisions are not,” said Silverberg.

Kennedy explained that all hearings are reviewed individually and therefore there are no exact precedents for sanctions.

In fact, according to Widnall, the committee does not keep transcripts of its hearings. The only record of a COD hearing is a letter sent to the student and kept on file by the COD explaining what the hearing concerned, what information was presented, and what sanctions were imposed, Widnall said. Although the committee evaluates hearings on a case-by-case basis, she said, she made the committee review several dozen prior sanction letters when she became chair, so they understand what rulings they have made in the past.

The committee is comprised of about a dozen faculty, administrators, and students; the membership is available online at <http://web.mit.edu/committees/faculty/Rosters/CoD.pdf>.

An open forum was held at the Sloan School on Friday, April 4 to discuss the incident. The forum, which was facilitated by Chaplain Robert M. Randolph, drew a crowd of about 50 students, according to Raphael.

One idea that arose at the forum was a need for a code of Sloan community values. Students are currently working on this code and on a request to ask President Susan Hockfield or Sloan School dean David C. Schmittlein to acknowledge and condemn the event.

The students are also working closely with the Sloan administration to provide more diversity training during Orientation. Since the incident, curriculum changes have included a diversity workshop during the Sloan Innovation Period, a one-week interval between the two halves of the semester.

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Anonymous Text Messages Test Activists' Privacy on the Internet

TXTmob, from Page 1

York City Law Department and dated Feb. 4, 2008. The subpoena was issued in response to hundreds of lawsuits filed by arrested protestors against the city and is available online at <http://tech.mit.edu/V128/N18/hirsch/>.

Hirsch is contesting the subpoena with the help of two attorneys who are representing him pro bono: Matt Zimmerman, a staff attorney with the Electronic Frontier Foundation, and David B. Rankin, a New York attorney.

Zimmerman said that the case raised issues of the "right of individuals to be able to speak anonymously online or using new technologies."

Hirsch said he feels a responsibility to people using service to protect their privacy — a stance he contrasted with that taken by major telephone companies, which have in recent years shared customer information with the government.

Hirsch's case combines "online technology" and "text messaging in

kind of a unique way that we haven't dealt with before," Zimmerman said.

Both the First Amendment and a 1986 federal law support Hirsch's decision not to hand over the messages, Zimmerman said.

Zimmerman said he hoped the city would drop the subpoena, but they might instead go to court to force disclosure by moving to compel.

A community organizing tool

The TXTmob service, initially designed to support street protests during the 2004 Democratic National Convention and Republican National Convention, had "something like 320 groups and 7000 users" during the conventions, Hirsch said.

It was designed to help activists spread information among themselves and to journalists, legal observers, and medical help by sending text messages to many cell phones at once.

TXTmob sends messages via SMTP gateways — sending e-mail to special addresses that major cell phone providers then forward to people's cell phones.

Hirsch said he assumed that police were subscribed to some of these groups, a fact confirmed last year in declassified New York City Police Department intelligence documents.

Do the old messages still exist?

An issue which affects the subpoena's effectiveness is whether three-year-old messages from summer 2004 are still stored in the system. Hirsch and his attorney Zimmerman both declined to comment on whether any messages were still stored in the system. Hirsch said that upon receiving the subpoena, he made a backup of the txtmob.com server — which is in the Media Lab — as it existed at the time of the subpoena.

The table in the database which stores old messages "is purged sporadically," Hirsch said. Database cleaning "is run occasionally," he said, but "stuff is generally kept around."

Once a user deletes himself, Hirsch said, his information is no longer stored in the system. But the system does associate existing users' names with phone numbers, so that messages can be sent. Some usernames in the system are e-mail addresses or names clearly identifiable as a person's name.

"I've been advised by my lawyers not to discuss the subpoena," said Hirsch.

Lawyer claims First Amendment protects users

"People with individual rights are the same, regardless of what technological form they're using," Zimmerman said.

To protect people's First Amendment free speech rights, courts should require New York City to show why the requested messages will help litigate their case, and the request should be very specific, Zimmerman said. He said that the subpoena against Hirsch was too broad.

Zimmerman said the TXTmob messages have nothing to do with the cases against New York City. The hundreds of cases generally include claims of false arrest, which requires showing whether the arresting officer had probable cause to arrest the citizen, Zimmerman said.

Probable cause depends on the arresting officer's state of mind, which Zimmerman said should not involve text messages sent to arrested protesters.

Asked about messages that officers might have received, Zimmerman said that the subpoena did not only request such messages, but broadly encompassed messages to protesters.

The subpoena is "focused on people who were engaged in lawful protests," he said. "Protesters should not feel chilled."

Case could set precedent

Zimmerman said that he has handled three or four similar subpoena cases in the past two years. He said

that courts generally "respond positively" and "frequently articulate a standard in the jurisdiction." A motion to compel would be heard in the Massachusetts District Court, where the subpoena was delivered, Zimmerman said. He said he was unaware of any existing standard explaining when subpoenas should be able to force the disclosure of anonymous people's names and messages.

If a clarifying opinion were issued in the Massachusetts District Court, it "could provide ammunition for future" cases about Internet speech, Zimmerman said.

Even if the First Amendment permitted the release of the information to the government, it would still be illegal under the 1986 Stored Communication Act, part of the 1986 Electronic Communications Privacy Act, Zimmerman said. That act restricted when people may share other people's electronic information which their system is storing, for instance e-mail.

The Stored Communications Act "prevents government entities from using subpoenas like this," Zimmerman said.

"I intend to comply with whatever the court tells me to do," Hirsch said.

Hirsch works for community empowerment

Hirsch has been a community organizer since the last 1980s, he said. But his entry into the technical field is new. His other research includes a project to help connect Chinese-speaking Boston residents with translators to help them talk to English speakers; and a project called Dialup Radio, designed to let people host radio shows by telephone in Zimbabwe, where he said the government strictly controls radio broadcasts.

Hirsch's PhD thesis at the Media Lab, which he expects to complete this summer, describes how to design "communication systems for protests and community empowerment," he said. There is "only one legal radio station" in Zimbabwe, he said, "and the government owns it."

TXTmob has evolved since 2004

In the time since the 2004 convention, many other uses of the TXTmob system have emerged. The public "NYC booty call" group offers "NSA [no strings attached] NYC booty." The "SWATnurse" group offers "Instant RN [Registered Nurse] TXT Job Notification." The "EBBANDFLOWUP-DATES" group offers "Revolutionary hip hop straight to your phone!"

"There was a text confessional thing going on for a while," Hirsch said. The anonymous messages seemed "sincere, which was kind of wonderful."

But Hirsch said he didn't know whether people have used his system recently, for instance to coordinate the Olympic torch protests in San Francisco. The group appears to have about 13,078 users, based on a list available to logged-in users at <http://www.txtmob.com/invite.php>.

He said he hasn't followed TXTmob usage very closely in the years since he invented the system. He said he's hoping that someone else will take the system over after he completes a significant redesign in the next few months.

Although Hirsch developed the service anonymously and attributed it to a group called the Institute for Applied Autonomy, he said after the subpoena there was no point in preserving his anonymity. The IAA publishes works anonymously, but "basically I wrote it all," he said.

Hirsch now finds himself protecting others' privacy, which Zimmerman said was a novelty of the Internet age. "You, as a speaker, can't just rely on your own ability to fight off legal attempts to get at your identity" when your speech happened online, he said.

Informed that txtmob.com was offline yesterday afternoon, Hirsch expressed surprise. Someone must have kicked the power cord, he said. (It was back online a few hours later.)

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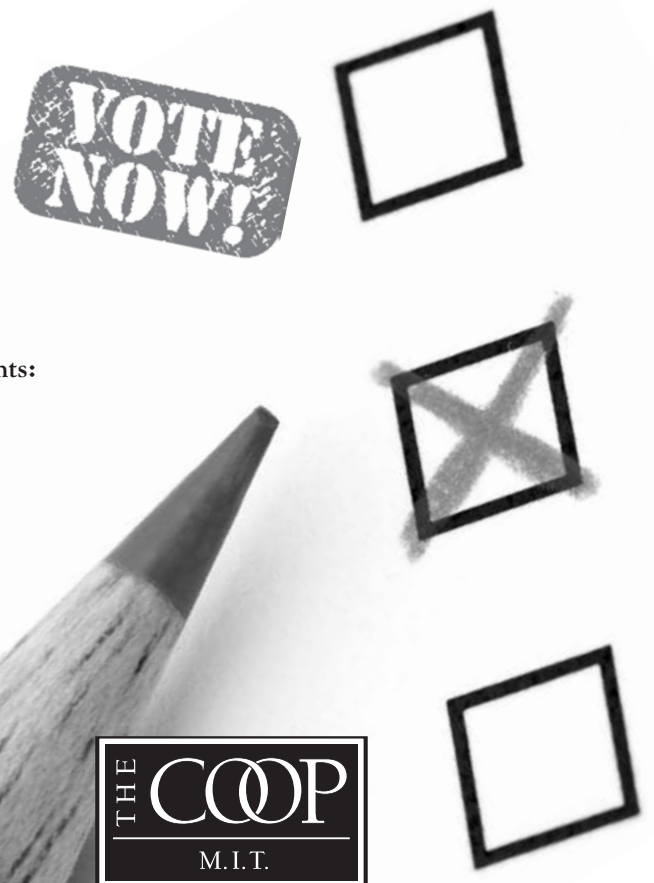
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- b. **Or** one piece of original work and visual representations of other originals (i.e. slides, photographic prints, etc.
- 2)
- A written statement concerning artist's intent as it pertains to his or her works and art in general

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Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place in the competition
Honorable mentions may also be awarded

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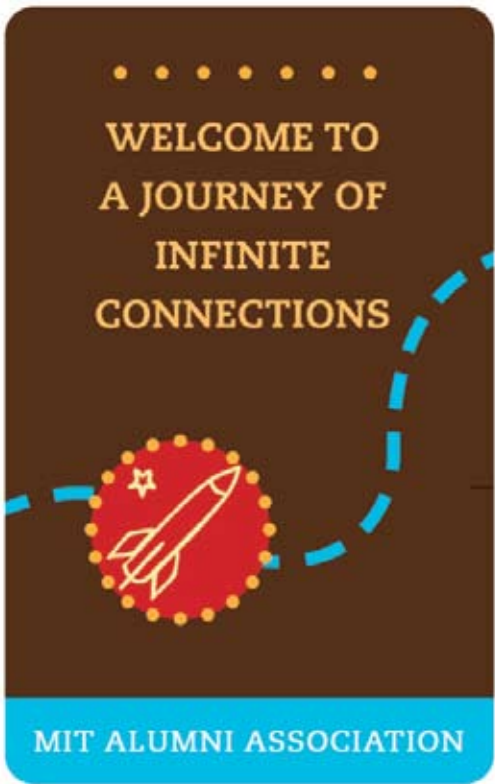
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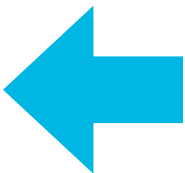
DEAD RISING?—MIT hackers placed “In Case of Zombie Attack” boxes complete with Small Chainsaws in buildings 16 and 46 early last morning. The boxes greeted prospective students touring MIT for Campus Preview Weekend.

MONICA KAHN—THE TECH

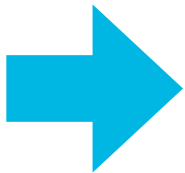
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Fantasy Sports Leagues Provide Exposure for Unknown Players

Fantasy, from Page 20

More broadly, do brackets and fantasy leagues taint the purity of affiliating yourself with a team?

In general, I say no on both counts. Filling out a bracket usually involves reading up on teams, checking out their statistics and head-to-head records, and so forth. The same goes for fantasy teams; people read up on players from teams that they normally would ignore. “Whatever, he plays for the Royals, why should I care what his name is?” becomes “Alex Gordon is such a hot prospect. He may have started off slowly last year, but he has so much upside! He could be the next George Brett!”

Superior athletes on small-market teams, whether college or profes-

sional, are hidden from the casual fan until they receive major media exposure. In recent years, “bracketology” and fantasy updates have become integral parts of sports coverage, and so it is the case that March Madness and fantasy leagues have increased the popularity of college basketball and pro baseball. Look at Davidson College, the media darling and Cinderella team of the 2008 tournament. Can you honestly say that you knew who Stephen Curry was before March Madness rolled around and Davidson became a bracket-buster?

Brackets and fantasy leagues not only give players exposure, but they also encourage casual fans to pay attention to results and even watch games. Friends who normally tease me for being abnormally attached

to my scoreboards and transaction pages also start checking the results and statistics lines. So long as they are interested, why should the reason for their interest matter?

Finally, one thing I have not yet addressed is the direct conflict of a favorite team versus a bracket team. To me, this is an obvious decision: if I have to choose between my bracket/league and my favorite team winning, I will always choose the latter. Is this monetarily foolish? Perhaps, (sorry, Dad) but the joy in watching my favorite teams win far exceeds the amount of pride derived from winning a bracket pool or fantasy league.

Well, that, and the fact that I know that my cheering has no effect on the outcome.

Winter Training Ends With Records as Team Prepares to Begin Spring Racing

Crew, from Page 20

Lightweight men’s crew opens its spring racing season this Saturday on the Charles River against perennial Eastern Association of Rowing Colleges contenders Yale University and Georgetown University. This year is the 29th annual contest be-

tween MIT and Yale for the Joy Cup in the Varsity 8 race. Georgetown has been invited as a guest for 2008 and is joining the race for the first time.

Racing starts at 6:48 a.m. with the Varsity 4+ race, with the 2F (2nd Freshmen) Eight racing at 7:12 a.m. The 1F will take off at 7:36 a.m. and

the Varsity 8 at 8:24 a.m. The races will start at the Longfellow Bridge and finish right before Tang Hall on the Cambridge shore of the river. Spectators are welcome to watch from the Massachusetts Ave. Bridge, located at the 1000 meter mark, and the Pierce Boathouse, where crews have 500 meters left to go.

Men’s Lacrosse Comes From Behind; Scores Three Goals in Last Three Min. for Overtime

Lacrosse, from Page 20

mark of the second quarter.

Garvey netted his first goal of the afternoon at 13:46 of the third quarter to put the Engineers on the board, but John Canty countered for the Beacons at 9:30 with a man-up goal to give them a 4-1 lead. Ballentine cut the deficit in half with a score just 58 seconds later, but UMass Boston came back with two more goals for a 6-2 advantage.

Thomo converted his attempt at

6:12 of the third period and Justin Mahoney found the back of the net just 40 seconds later. Erik S. Zuk ’11 beat the clock for MIT with his only goal of the game coming with just ten seconds left in the third quarter to make it 6-3. Daniel G. Piemont ’10 made it a two-goal game by recording the opening strike of the fourth quarter at 11:47 for the Engineers, before Thomo scored UMass Boston’s final goal.

Aaron Pollock stopped 11 shots for the Beacons, who were outshot,

33-19, while Garth S. Grove ’10 turned away five shots to earn the victory for MIT.

Kinch added an assist to his day for UMB, as did Canty, while Johnny Ruiz came up with two helpers. Mahoney picked up eight ground balls and Kovach added six.

Garvey and Ballentine each added an assist to a pair of goals for three points, while Zuk also tacked on a helper for the Engineers. Ballentine led the squad with seven ground balls.

Team Awarded NECVA All-Academic Award as MIT Concludes Season

Volleyball, from Page 20

his second honor as he was also a Second-Team pick in 2006, which made him the first All-America recipient in the program’s history. Pamidimukkala earned additional accolades as he was named to the NECVA All-Tournament Team, NECVA New England Player of the Year, and NECVA All-Conference First Team for the third year in a row. Ryan G. Dean ’08 was named to the

NECVA New England All-Division 2nd Team.

MIT was honored with the NECVA All-Academic Award and recorded the highest GPA in the 39-team conference. Individually, Randolph H. Li ’09, Steven D. Ray ’08, Eric R. Reuland ’10, Dean, Eugene Jang ’09, Matthew Ng ’08, T. Scott Pol-lom ’09, and Philip M. Rogoz ’10 were named to the All-Academic Team. This was the most of any team in the conference.

Women’s Ultimate Performs Well Despite Tough Winds

sMITe, from Page 20

name this spring,” said co-captain Catherine W. Seaborn G. “Everyone stepped it up for the tough games Saturday afternoon in the wind.”

The team brought out its box-and-one defense with co-captain Erika M. Swanson G against key players on opposing teams. MIT’s defense was strong throughout the tournament, with Swanson, Jennifer L. Barry G and Doris Lin G forcing multiple turnovers in the end zone.

“Our rookies did a stellar job,” said co-coach Jin Ding. “Chenxia Liu ’09 made some great catches and Ds [defensive blocks]; Natasha P. Plotkin ’11 is developing into a strong zone cup player; and Anne P.

Runkle ’11 had intense defense and caught everything thrown at her.”

During this tournament “we showed that we could play with any team in the region,” said Ding. “The challenge will be coming out strong from the beginning of every game and being able to turn up the intensity in close games.”

Seaborn added that the team will be concentrating on “finessing the fundamentals in outdoor conditions over the next couple of weeks until Sectionals.”

If sMITe does well at Metro Boston Sectionals next weekend against many of the same teams, the team will go to New England Regionals in Lancaster, MA at the beginning of May.

SCOREBOARD			
Baseball		Women’s Lacrosse	
Tuesday, April 8, 2008		Tuesday, April 8, 2008	
Clark University (8-14, 2-4 NEWMAC ¹)	4	Babson College (10-1, 3-0 NEWMAC)	23
MIT (9-10, 3-3)	7	MIT (1-6, 0-2)	13
Wednesday, April 9, 2008		Softball	
Fisher College (13-13)	3	Wednesday, April 9, 2008	
MIT (10-10)	4	Babson College (16-11, 5-2, NEWMAC)	7
Men’s Lacrosse		MIT (4-16, 1-8)	1
Tuesday, April 8, 2008		Wednesday, April 9, 2008	
MIT (2-6)	7	Babson College (17-11, 6-2)	3
University of Massachusetts - Boston (1-6)	8	MIT (4-17, 1-9)	1

¹New England Women’s and Men’s Athletic Conference

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SPORTS

The Dilemma: Supporting Your Fantasy Team or Favorite Team

By Caroline Huang
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

March Madness has ended and baseball season has just begun, prompting plenty of trash-talking about brackets and fantasy teams. In the interest of full disclosure, I am a Duke basketball (relatives live near there) and Boston Red Sox (family grew up here) fan. You can imagine my chagrin, then, when I objectively picked the University of North Carolina to win the NCAA men's basketball tournament rather than my beloved Duke. It's the same feeling that I had last year when several groups of my friends asked me to join their fantasy baseball leagues, and I ended up with several Yankees players, including Alex Rodriguez.

"Wait," you say. "If you picked

UNC to win, you probably did pretty well in your bracket—they did get to the Final Four. You should want players like Alex Rodriguez on your team, since they have fantastic individual statistics." Well, both are true: my bracket was decent up until Kansas throttled UNC, and I won one of my fantasy leagues. But I found it unnatural to root for a team that I have cheered against for years, both during regular season games and the tournament itself, for the sake of winning a bracket. As for hoping that Alex Rodriguez performed at a high level for a whole season, just so I could do well in my fantasy leagues? Yeah, not so much. That ship sailed a long time ago, right around the time he put on pinstripes.

This dilemma intensified during the UNC-Kansas game. My bracket said that I should root for UNC, but

my heart told me to cheer for Kansas. Ultimately, I settled on a passive-aggressive middle-ground of being frustrated that a team I normally despise for playing so well was playing so poorly. (This just reinforces my hatred for UNC. The one time I am pseudo-cheering for them is also the time they decide to play a streaky, sloppy game.) It really should have been a win-win situation: whether UNC won (bracket = happy) or UNC lost (Duke fan = happy), the key feeling was supposed to be happiness. And even though I realized this, the situation still felt odd.

So the question remains, is it disloyal to cheer for individual players or teams other than your own for the purpose of winning an arbitrary bracket or league?

Fantasy, Page 19

Garthwaite, Peterson, Wojcieszynski, Blankstein Enter Institute Top Eight

By Dhru Boddupalli
ASSISTANT COACH

The lightweight crew team finished their indoor winter training season with four men breaking into the Institute's top eight 5k records. Co-captain William R. Garthwaite '08 and Andrzej "Woj" P. Wojcieszynski '08 earned second and seventh in the record books with times of 17:17.4 and 17:31.8, respectively. Meanwhile, Raphael "Raffi" R. Peterson '10 earned fifth with a time

of 17:23 flat and co-captain Aaron M. Blankstein '10 took eighth with 17:38.3.

"Seeing one guy make gains in speed pushes the whole team to go after him," said Wojcieszynski.

Rowing is a Division I, year-round sport at MIT that moves indoors when the Charles River freezes over. During this time, oarsmen train and compete with each other on the ergometer, an indoor rowing machine that is recognized as a world standard training and racing tool.

While fall races are 5000 me-

ters long and feature staggered start times, spring racing is shorter and faster with crews competing side-by-side over a 2000 meter course. Winter training serves as a time for crews to improve fitness and prepare their bodies to produce the raw power and speed required in 2000 meter racing. "The competition will be fierce as always, but I'm really excited to see how far we can take our speed this season," said co-captain Blankstein.

Crew, Page 19

Men's Volleyball Team Reaches Quarterfinals

By Paul Dill
TEAM COACH

The men's volleyball team competed in their fourth consecutive North East Collegiate Volleyball Association Championship Tournament this past weekend at Ramapo College. The team earned a berth into the tournament after finishing the regular season with a 9-2 record in the New England Division of NECVA. The winner of the tournament advances to the Molten Division III Final Four.

In the first round, the nationally-ranked no. 12 Engineers (25-11) faced no. 14 Hunter College. MIT got off to a slow start in the first two games with Hunter College playing with great intensity and producing a very formidable defense.

After falling behind two games to zero, the Engineers slowly took control of the match midway through the third game behind the stellar play

of Michael Demyttenaere '10 and Praveen Pamidimukkala '08. MIT finally started to find its stride and picked up both its defense and serve receive, placing Hunter under more and more pressure. The Engineers fought back to take games three and four, and then closed out the match to complete the epic comeback, 3-2 (27-30, 25-30, 30-26, 30-25, 15-11).

The next day, MIT faced top seed no. 3 Vassar College. Although the team fought hard to keep each game close, Vassar eventually pulled away, winning the match 3-0 (30-27, 30-22, 30-22). Vassar went on to win the entire tournament, defeating Newbury College in the finals for their first ever NECVA Championship.

The team earned several awards at the end of the season. Pamidimukkala was selected to the American Volleyball Coaches Association Division III Men's Volleyball All-America Second Team. This is

Volleyball, Page 19

sMITe Finishes Seventh in Yale Cup After Wins Against Brown, Williams, Vermont

By Rosa Cao
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

The MIT women's ultimate frisbee team "sMITe" came in seventh out of 16 teams at the Yale Cup tournament last weekend in New Haven. The tournament brought together top teams from the Northeast that MIT will be playing throughout the spring season in the competition to go to Nationals.

Seeded ninth for this the second tournament of the spring season, MIT made it into the championship bracket (top 8) on Saturday, defeating Williams College (10-7) and Brown University (11-3) after a tough first game against Cornell University

(11-2). The team then won the first elimination game against University of Vermont.

On Sunday, the team lost two hard-fought games to Tufts University (13-7) and Wesleyan University (11-7), before outscoring Boston University for a seventh place finish. Tufts, seeded third, finished second after losing to top seed Dartmouth College in the finals.

Fourth-year Daphne L. Wang '08 led off the last game of the tournament with three layouts on the first point, shutting down BU's best player. MIT won the final game 9-5 under time cap.

It was "great for our second tour-

sMITe, Page 19

Game of the Week Men's Lacrosse Wins Overtime Thriller on Garvey's Late Goal

By Mindy Brauer
DAPER STAFF

Corey Garvey '10 scored with 1:44 left in overtime to give the MIT men's lacrosse team an 8-7 win over host University of Massachusetts Boston on Tuesday. With the win, the Engineers improved to 2-6 on the season while the Beacons fell to 1-6 overall.

Nick Thomo found the back of the net with 4:37 left to play in regulation to give UMass Boston a 7-4 lead, but MIT netted the final three goals of the fourth quarter to send the contest into overtime. Ryan W.

Ballentine '09 scored with 2:53 left in the fourth period to cut the deficit to 7-5, before John R. Kucharczyk '11 scored just 61 seconds later to cut the deficit in half. Dylan F. Roden '09 knotted the score at seven with just 16 ticks left on the clock.

The Beacons scored the first three goals of the match, which were also the only three scores of the first half. Jared Kinch opened the scoring at the 9:59 mark of the first quarter and gave UMB a 3-0 lead with 2:26 left in the first half with his second goal of the day. Peter Kovach registered the Beacons' second goal at the 6:57

Lacrosse, Page 19

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, April 11, 2008		
Baseball vs. Elms College		4 p.m., Briggs Field
Saturday, April 12, 2008		
Men's Lightweight Crew, Joy Cup		6:48 a.m., Briggs Field
Sailing, Oberg Trophy		9 a.m., Charles River
Baseball vs. Worcester Polytechnic Institute		12 p.m., 2 p.m., Briggs Field
Softball vs. Regis College		12 p.m., Briggs Field
Women's Lacrosse vs. Smith College		12 p.m., Jack Barry Field
Women's Tennis vs. New York University		2:30 p.m., duPont Tennis Courts
Sunday, April 13, 2008		
Sailing, Central Series		10:30 a.m., Charles River

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